REPORT

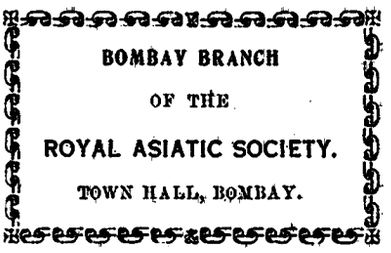
ON THE

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

OF Assam

1888-89; 1897-98; 1898-99 & 1900-01

00132917



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ANNUL REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATIOOF THE LAND REVENUE

IN

ASSAM,

Year 1888-89.

132917

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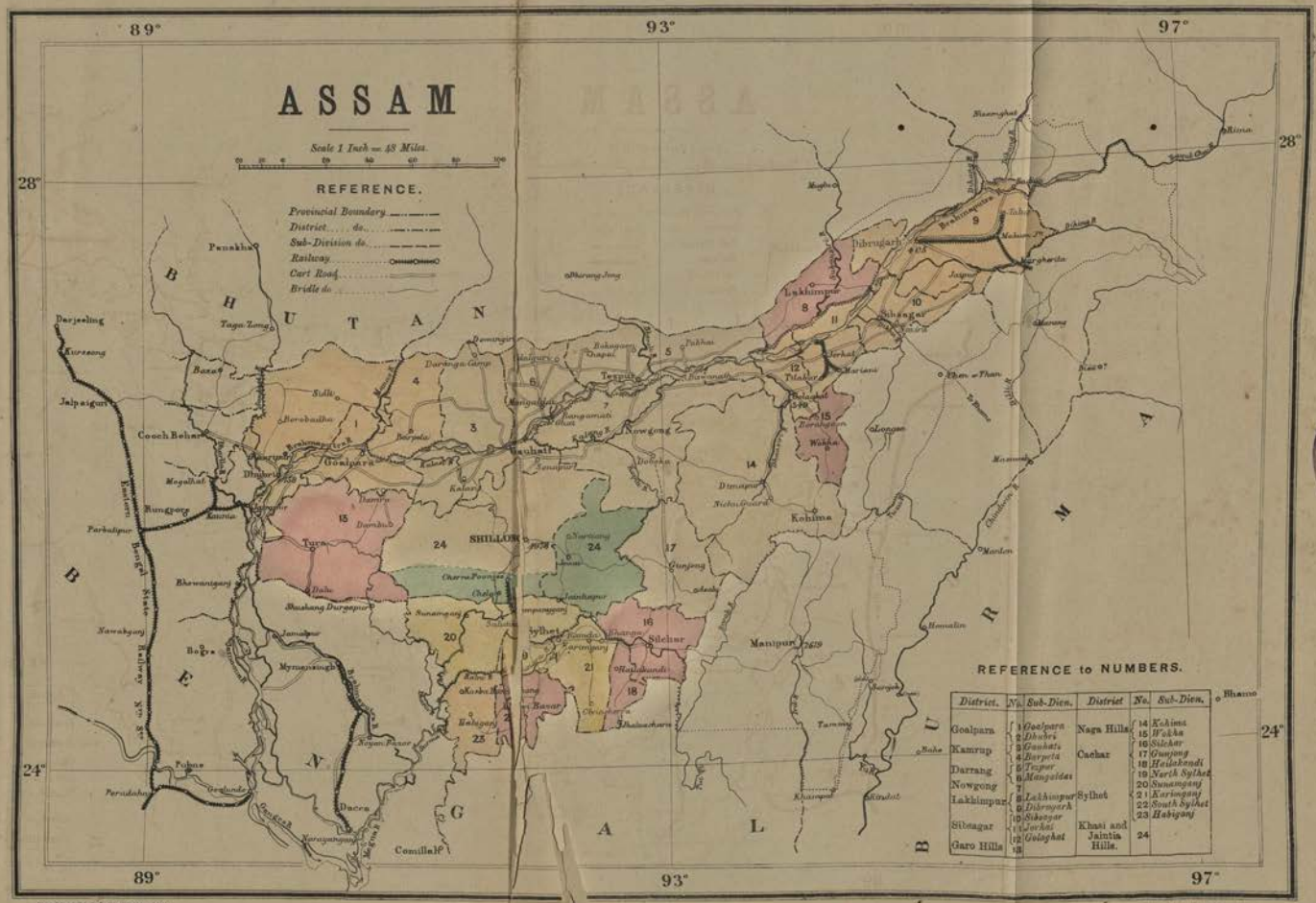
SHILLONG:
PRINTED AT THE ASSAM SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1889.

Map Illustrating the distribution of the Rainfall in the several Sub-divisions of the Province of Assam.



EXPLANATION.

Sub-divisions in which the average rainfall for 5 years is—

Over 50 and under 75 inches
„ 75 „ 100 „
„ 100 „ 150 „
„ 150 „ 200 „
„ 200 inches

NOTE.—Cherra Poonjee, a hill station, is shown separately.

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Published under the direction of Colonel H. R. Thuillier, R.E., *Surveyor General of India,*
April 1889.

Photo-litho., S. I. O., Calcutta.

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Darrang.—In Tezpur the rainfall in June and July was deficient. In Mangaldai the distribution was fair. In both sub-divisions October was generally dry, and in September the rainfall was abnormally short.

Nowgong.—The supply of rain was normal and well distributed from April to September; it contributed towards the increase of land revenue in the regular settlement. But the scanty fall from October to December injuriously affected the supplementary settlement.

Sibságar.—The rain was fairly distributed, being plentiful in the early months. The weather was very favourable to *sáli dhán* and *matikalai.* The scanty fall of rain in November and total absence of rain in December seriously affected the mustard crop.

Lakhimpur.—The distribution of rainfall during the agricultural months was on the whole good. The fall in October in the sadr sub-division was perhaps too light, but the supply of the previous months sufficed to satisfy the requirements of the growing crops.

In the hill districts the rainfall was less than in the previous year, except at Jowai, in the Jaintia Hills, and Wokha, in the Nága Hills. The average rainfall of the whole Province increased from 115·18 inches in 1887-88 to 124·60 inches in the year under report.

Harvests.

In Cachar the rice-harvest was so good that, notwithstanding the comparative failure of the cold-weather crops, owing to the dry season, there was sufficient rice in the district to check imports of grain.

In Sylhet the unequal distribution of rain affected the rice crops, and the dry cold-weather was unfavourable to the "*bura*" paddy, linseed, and mustard.

In the Assam Valley *áhu* rice generally did well. The outturn of *sáli dhán* was below the average in Lower Assam. In Nowgong it is said to have produced an average crop. In Sibságar and Lakhimpur it was a full crop, one of the best reaped in those districts for several years. Mustard suffered from short rain in September and October, but was nevertheless a better crop than in the previous year. Tea did well everywhere, except in Sibságar, where the early close of the season, owing to the dry weather, is said to have prevented many gardens from completing their estimated outturn.

In the Nága and Khási Hills the harvest of all classes of crops, except potatoes, was good. In the latter district the potato disease was not so prevalent as in the preceding year. The crop, however, was small.

In the Gáro Hills the rainfall was seasonable and well distributed throughout the year, the result being a bumper cotton crop in the hills and a rice crop above the average in almost all the plains portions of the district, except in localities submerged by the Jinjiram river.

The following is a summary of the Deputy-Commissioners' remarks on the subject of crops:—

Cachar.—The weather was abnormal, although quite favourable to the growth of paddy. The first part of the year was unusually wet. There was rain almost every day during the months of April, June, and August. The cold season, especially the months of December and January, was unusually dry, and the winter crops suffered. The failure of these crops was, however, less keenly felt, owing to the good harvest of rice.

Sylhet.—The floods early in the year and the dry weather of the autumn, just when rain was wanted to fill the ear, told prejudicially upon the *dhán* crop, which was somewhat light. The average temperature from April to November was unusually low, and checked the yield of tea. The cold season from the month of October was unusually dry. The consequence was that "*bura*" paddy, mustard, and linseed yielded a poor outturn.

Goálpára.—The outturn of *sáli dhán* was not good, but the yield of *ahu dhán* was fair. The mustard crop was above the average, and the other winter crops were good.

Kámrúp.—The early rice crops yielded a good and average harvest. In Barpeta the winter rice crop was an average one, but in Gauháti it was only an eight-anna crop. Mustard, pulses, and sugarcane yielded an average outturn.

Darrang.— The early rice yielded a good crop, but the late rice crop in Tezpur and the southern mauzas of Mangaldai was below the average. In the northern mauzas of Mangaldai, where the Kachári ryots practice artificial irrigation, and have their water-supply in such perfect control that they can flood or drain off their fields whenever they please, the late rice crop was a good one. In Tezpur, *matikalai* produced a twelve-anna crop. In Mangaldai it was good. Tea, sugarcane, and mustard produced a good crop.

Nowgong.—*Ahu dhán* produced a bumper crop. *Sáli* and *bao dhán* yielded average crops in most parts of the district. Mustard, which suffered a good deal from the scanty rainfall in November and December, produced a better crop than in the previous year. Tea *matikalai,* and sugarcane were fairly good.

Sibságar.—*Sáli dhán* produced a rich crop. The mustard crop was poor. Sugarcane and *matikalai* were good. Tea did badly, owing to unfavourable weather.

Lakhimpur.—Both the *áhu* and *sáli dhán* yielded a full crop. Mustard and *matikalai* produced an average one. Sugarcane did very well.

Nága Hills.—The rainfall registered at Kohima was rather below, and that at Wokha much above, the average. The yield of all crops, except potatoes, which were an entire failure, was good.

Khási Hills.—The distribution of the rainfall in this district is peculiar, and the fall varies much at the different stations: at Shillong it was 30 inches below the average, while Cherrapunji showed a decrease of about the same amount on the previous year. The rainfall was, however, sufficient, and *dhán*, millet, job's-tears, Indian-corn, the tuber called *sohphlang*, and cotton did well. The potato crop was poor, the tuber rotting soon after being taken out of the ground. It is reported that the Khásias are losing faith in this crop, and are beginning to show signs of abandoning the cultivation of it.

Gáro Hills.—The rainfall was both seasonable and well distributed. In the hill portion of the district the outturn of all kinds of crops, especially of cotton, was excellent. In the plains some of the rice suffered from inundation. Cotton had been so profitable in the previous year that the Gáros extended their cultivation to the comparative neglect of rice.

Storms and floods.

2. The only storms reported were hailstorms in Cachar in March and April, which did some damage to tea. The highest flood point reached by the river Brahmaputra at Gauháti in 1888 was 27·80 feet above zero in the fourth week (30th and 31st) of July. The highest points on record in the previous six years were :—

1882	27·10,	August 21st.
1883	29·20,	„ 14th and 15th.
1884	25·50,	July 14th.
1885	27·00,	„ 16th to 18th.
1886	28·70,	August 16th.
1887	26·50,	September 10th.

The lowest point registered was 2·58 feet below zero on 31st December. The lowest points below zero registered in the previous six years were :—

1882	2·10,	March 8th to 10th.
1883	1·40,	February 20th to 24th.
1884	1·40,	„ 21st and 22nd.
1885	4·55,	March 18th and 19th.
1886	2·70,	February, fourth week.
1887	2·10,	Ditto.

Public health.

3. The total number of births registered during the year under report was 143,153 against 129,449, and the birth-rate per mille was 31·62 against 28·59 in 1887, these figures being the highest on record. The birth-rate increased in all districts except Kámrúp and Lakhimpur, where the decrease was slight. Cachar had the highest birth-rate (38·88).

At the same time the total number of deaths registered during the year also increased, from 111,015 in 1887 to 126,654 in 1888, and the average death-ratio per thousand rose from 24·52 to 27·98. The increase was chiefly due to increased mortality from cholera, fever, and bowel-complaints, and partly also to improved registration. It was most marked in Lakhimpur and Nowgong, while in Cachar and Goálpára the number of deaths diminished.

In Cachar the public health on the whole was good. In Sylhet, deaths from cholera diminished, while those from small-pox increased. Generally, it may be said that the revenue was not affected by the state of the public health in the Surma Valley.

In the Assam Valley, the public health was not as good as in the previous year. Both cholera and fever showed a large increase. In Goálpára, there was a serious outbreak of cholera among the coolie immigrants. Deaths from small-pox, except in Kámrúp and Sibságar, showed a decrease, probably due to the extension of vaccination. In Kámrúp the increasing prevalence of the fever called *kála-ázar* exercised a prejudicial effect on the land revenue, which is discussed more fully in paragraph 11 below. The Government of India has sanctioned a proposal made by the Chief Commissioner that a specially qualified medical officer should be deputed to inquire in to the causes of this destructive fever. In the Gáro Hills *kála-ázar*, although prevalent in several mauzas, is reported to have been less virulent than in former years, except in the plains mauza No. 6, bordering on Kámrúp.

Cattle-disease.

4. In Cachar there was no cattle-disease, nor was any reported from Sylhet.

The following table exhibits the reported mortality among cattle in the Assam Valley. The figures show a considerable increase in each district, notably in Sibságar,

Kámrúp, and Lakhimpur, the rate per mille for the division being 52·92 against 42·44 in the previous year, but part of this increase may be due to improved registration:—

District.	From cattle-disease.	From wild beasts.	From other causes.	Total.	Total 1887-88.	Assumed number of cattle.	Rate per 1,000.	
							1888-89.	1887-88.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Goálpára	18,927	5,797	9,409	34,133	33,617	554,765	61·52	61·72
Kámrúp	22,007	2,905	9,153	31,065	26,474	653,000	52·16	40·54
Darrang	12,236	2,166	3,818	18,220	13,188	277,000	65·77	47·61
Nowgong	14,297	733	5,789	20,819	14,162	314,000	66·36	45·10
Sibságar	15,357	1,892	3,114	20,363	9,318	375,000	54·30	24·84
Lakhimpur	4,942	881	1,142	6,965	3,163	179,893	38·71	17·58
Total	87,766	14,374	32,425	134,565	99,922	2,353,658	52·92	42·44

In the Nága Hills foot-disease, which, however, was rarely fatal, was prevalent among the cattle.

In the Khási Hills 179 cattle are reported to have died of disease in the neighbourhood of Shillong. The Khásias, in general, do not keep cattle.

In the Gáro Hills disease also made its appearance around the station of Tura and in the plains mauzas. It is reported that few deaths occurred; but full statistics are not available.

Prices.

5. In Cachar the price of rice continued to fall. The average price of best and of common rice was Rs. 3-6-4 and Rs. 2-0-6 per maund, as compared with Rs. 4-5-6 and Rs. 2-3-10 respectively in the previous year. The price of pulses and all other grains, except rice, on the other hand rose considerably, owing to the poor harvests of these grains in Bengal and Behar.

In Sylhet rice was cheaper than it had been for years past. The Deputy-Commissioner expresses the hope that it may soon be selling again at 30 seers the rupee, as was the case in the year 1882-83. There was also a greater demand for rice in Bengal, and the export trade brought money into the district. The following table shows the average retail price of common rice in each sub-division for the past five years:—

Average retail price of common rice in each sub-division of Sylhet for the past five years.

Nam of sub-division.	1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.		1888-89.	
	Sr.	Ch.	Sr.	Ch.	Sr.	Ch.	Sr.	Ch.	Sr.	Ch.
North Sylhet...	16	10	15	14	15	3	19	15	21	1
Habiganj	16	0	14	10	13	9	17	10	18	4
Sunámganj	18	7	24	8	16	12	19	9	26	2
Karimganj	17	1	17	12	14	11	18	2	20	3
South Sylhet...	15	1	16	1	12	5	14	2	22	7

The following statement shows the mean prices-current in the different bázárs and stations of the Assam Valley during the last five years of common rice and *matikalai*, the commonest pulse of those parts:—

Station.	Common rice.					*Matikalai.*				
	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.	Sr. C.
Dhubri	11 13	17 0	19 0	18 0	16 12	19 14	21 8	20 0	24 0	22 2
Goálpára	14 18	16 0	18 0	17 8	16 11	17 13	21 0	19 0	22 0	20 11
Barpeta	17 12	17 8	23 1	22 13	24 2	18 12	19 5	21 2	23 9	24 8
Gauháti	15 5	16 0	21 4	19 11	19 14	16 12	18 3	22 13	21 6	18 13
Mangaldai	16 5	16 3	18 3	24 3	24 0	12 7	13 3	16 1	16 0	13 0
Tezpur	14 0	16 0	18 8	16 6	16 13	11 11	13 3	14 15	14 12	15 14
Nowgong	13 14	13 4	14 14	15 9	16 0	14 0	16 9	19 6	19 13	17 8
Golághát	13 7	12 13	13 0	12 14	14 9	10 15	12 14	13 8	13 1	13 0
Jorhát	12 7	11 2	13 0	12 14	14 4	12 1	13 12	14 10	15 7	15 14
Sibságar	13 10	13 8	15 15	16 5	16 9	13 5	13 5	13 8	13 14	15 15
North Lakhimpur	15 1	13 6	14 0	16 1	16 2	18 10	11 9	12 9	12 13	13 12
Dibrugarh	11 5	13 0	14 2	14 13	14 14	12 10	15 3	15 11	16 13	16 0

In Assam proper common rice was cheaper during the year than in 1887-88, but in Goálpára the price rose sligthly in Dhubri, Goálpára, Gauháti, Mangaldai, Nowgong, and Dibrugarh the price of *matikalai* rose; in Golághát it remained nearly stationary, in other sub-divisions it fell.

In the Nága Hills, the price of all food staples, except potatoes, which are grown locally, fell, owing to increased competition among the owners of pack-ponies plying between Nichuguard and Kohima. The price of rice was Rs. 3-4 per maund in March 1889, as against Rs. 5 per maund in the same month of 1887.

In the Khási Hills also prices were lower, owing to lower rates of carriage between Gauháti and Shillong. *Ghi* was cheaper, owing to increased local production.

In the Gáro Hills the price of rice was the same as in the previous year. Gram and salt were rather dearer and *matikalai* slightly cheaper.

District crop statement.

6. In paragraph 3 of Revenue and Agricultural Department Resolution No. 52S.—69-6, dated the 14th September 1887, the Government of India directed that statistical returns relating to crops should be published in the Provincial Annual Land Revenue Administration Report. The following statements are therefore published in this report instead of in the report of the Agricultural Department:—

District Crop Statement (acres).

Name of district.	Area settled with or held revenue-free.			Area under cultivation.		Total cultivation.	Percentage of column 7 to column 4.	Early rice.	Late rice.
	Tea-planters.	Other than tea-planters.	Total.	Tea.	Ordinary crops.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Goálpára	552	66,051	66,603	367	65,631	65,998	99·09	38,938	26,587
Kámrúp	25,361	663,097	688,458	6,227	568,369	574,596	83·46	181,605	327,784
Darrang	108,281	253,620	361,901	20,012	221,709	241,721	66·79	44,487	124,657
Nowgong	59,831	257,755	317,586	10,973	250,751	261,724	82·41	62,252	137,734
Sibságar	225,411	384,127	609,538	47,377	323,656	371,033	60·87	13,671	222,617
Lakhimpur	172,301	106,659	278,960	32,144	102,157	134,301	48·14	9,837	72,622
Total	591,737	1,731,309	2,323,046	117,100	1,532,273	1,649,373	71·00	350,790	912,001

Name of district.	Mustard.	Cane.	Pulse.	Other crops.	*Basti.*	Fallow.	Total.	Deduct twice cropped.	Total cultivated area.
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Goálpára	10,338	78	752	3,373	3,456	801	84,323	18,325	65,998
Kámrúp	79,171	5,408	23,731	13,177	51,459	113,862	796,197	113,966	682,231
Darrang	11,396	2,720	13,566	10,557	22,144	225,226	454,753	15,234	439,519
Nowgong	42,829	2,154	14,300	11,825	15,561	2,883	290,538	43 016	247,522
Sibságar	9,233	6,945	6,828	42,058	23,031	13,236	337,619	7,805	329,814
Lakhimpur	1,971	1,988	1,168	4,886	9,006	7,497	108,975	1,473	107,502
Total	155,938	19,293	60,345	85,876	124,657	363,505	2,072,405	199,819	1,872,586

The above statement exhibits statistics regarding the temporarily-settled area under crops in the Assam Valley. These are compiled from the mauzadárs' field-books. Each mandal shows for his circle the area under the various crops, and the mandals' returns are translated for each district by the registrar kánungo. The statements annually compiled in the Deputy-Commissioners' offices are checked in the office of the Director of Land Records with Form B of the Annual Statistical Return No. XLI. B., and are then finally consolidated.

7. The following statement shows the area under crops in the cadastrally surveyed tracts, the papers of which were completed in 1887-88:—

Cadastral crop statement.

Cadastral Crop Statement (acres).

District.	Tea.	Sugarcane.	Rice seedlings.	*Aíu* rice.	*Sáli* rice.	*Bao* rice.	Mustard.	*Matikalai.*	Cotton.	Sum-trees.	Other crops.	Total crops.	Total double-cropped area.	Area actually under crops.	*Basti.*	*Khitrój* fallow.	*Nísf* and *la-khitrój* fallow.	Government waste.	Grand Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Kámrúp ..	660	4,660	13,923	98,502	170,494	59,846	23,728	20,212	716	1,557	5,269	399,567	52,557	347,010	40,469	29,820	49,556	285,379	752,234
Darrang..	4,069	1,346	4,260	34,198	61,494	2,410	3,118	9,062	88	552	1,623	122,220	9,729	112,491	15,693	17,193	31,049	173,602	350,028
Total	4,729	6,006	18,183	132,700	231,988	62,256	26,846	29,274	804	2,109	6,892	521,787	62,286	459,501	56,162	47,013	80,605	458,981	1,102,262

The above figures are more accurate than those shown the preceding paragraph as an exact record of the area under each crop is now maintained in mauzas that have been cadastrally surveyed.

SECTION II.—Land Revenue.

8. There were 50,002 permanently-settled estates on the revenue-roll at the close of the year under report, as compared with 50,019 at the end of 1887-88. In Goálpára and the Gáro Hills there was no change. In Sylhet, 18 estates, having been purchased by Government at sales for arrears of revenue, were transferred to the class of temporarily-settled estates, and one new estate was added to the revenue-roll, owing to partition.

Number of permanently-settled estates.

	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sylhet	49,999	49,982
Goálpára.....	19	19
Gáro Hills	1	1
Total.....	50,019	50,002

9. The total number of temporarily-settled estates on the revenue-roll on the 31st March 1889 was 621,135, as shown in the following statement, against 601,022 in 1887-88. Every district, except Goálpára, shows an increase. The increase occurred chiefly in the districts of Assam Proper, and was due almost entirely to the taking up of land for new cultivation on annual leases at full rates:—

Number of temporarily-settled estates.

Division.	District.	Number of estates. 1887-88.	Number of estates. 1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of Increase.	Percentage of Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Surmá Valley...	Cachar	10,431	10,495	64	...	61	...
	Sylhet	46,596	47,278	682	...	1·46	...
Brahmaputra Valley.	Goálpára	14,480	13,552	.....	928	...	6·41
	Kámrúp	161,155	162,449	1,294	...	·81	...
	Darrang	91,573	98,759	7,186	...	7·85	...
	Nowgong	117,836	118,448	612	...	·52	...
	Sibságar	109,261	117,374	8,113	...	7·43	...
	Lakhimpur	45,257	48,115	2,858	...	6·32	...
Hill Districts...	Nága Hills	269	281	12	...	4·46	...
	Khási and Jaintia Hills.	23	25	2	...	8·70	...
	Gáro Hills	4,141	4,359	218	...	5·26	...
	Total	601,022	621,135	21,041	928	3·35	...
	Net increase	.....	.....	20,113		...	...

In Cachar, 40 estates were settled for the first time during the year and 45 *jangalburi* leases were assessed on the expiration of their revenue-free term, while, on the other hand, 12 estates were relinquished, 8 reverted to Government, having found no purchasers when put up to sale for arrears of revenue, and one was acquired by the station committee for burying night soil.

The change in Sylhet is due to the addition of 689 estates, of which 671 were newly-settled and 18 were transferred, as noted above, from the roll of permanently-settled estates, and the exclusion of seven estates, of which four were struck off the roll, two were settled twice over, and one was declared by the Civil Court to be part of a permanently-settled estate.

In the Assam Valley districts the increase in the number of estates amounted to 3·54 per cent. The decrease of 6·41 per cent. in the Eastern Duárs of Goálpára is reported to be partly due to diminution of cultivation, but mainly to union of estates; the increase of last year was artificial, and was due to the splitting up of *pattas*. In the rest of the Assam Valley districts there was an increase in annual leases and a decrease in decennial leases, except in the sub-divisions of Mangaldai and Jorhát. In Mangaldai the increase in both annual and decennial leases was due mainly to the division of *pattas* according to the cadastral survey rules, which provide for separate *pattas* being issued for land in different villages. In Jorhát, annual leases were converted into periodic or decennial leases. The Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts writes—

"On the whole, annual leases have increased by 23,885, or over 9 per cent. and decennial leases have fallen off by 4,749, or about 1·7 per cent. There has been a moderate increase of cultivation in every sub-division except the Eastern Duárs and Gauháti, which accounts for the increase in annual leases.

"The decrease in periodic leases is due to resignations. As stated in the report for 1887-88, we no longer press for conversion of annual into periodic leases, a process which has now almost ceased. Except for tea, new land is not, under the Settlement Rules, taken up under ten-year lease. It is natural, therefore, that the area under decennial lease should annually show a decrease, since land so held can be resigned, but new land cannot be taken upon the same terms. In the course of a few years we shall probably arrive at the minimum of change, the residue held under periodic lease representing cultivation which is really permanent and valuable.

"Losses by resignation are most marked in the two sub-divisions of Kámrúp. In Barpeta the falling off, 7·6 per cent., is attributed partly to resignation on account of deterioration of soil, and partly to emigration of a number of Kachári ryots to Khuntaghat, a pargana in the Bijni estate in Goálpára. In Gauháti, the decrease is due principally to deaths, desertions, and resignations caused by the advance of *kála azár*."

In the Gáro Hills, the increase is due to extension of cultivation in the Government *khás mahál* of Kalumalupara and to the settlement of the Tura bázár. In the Nága Hills also the increase is due to new settlements.

Current demand.

10. The total current land revenue demand of the Province rose from Rs. 39,09,641 in 1887-88 to Rs. 39,76,932 during the year under report, showing an increase of Rs. 67,291, or 1·72 per cent., as compared with an increase of Rs. 49,132, or 1·28 per cent., in the previous year. Details are given for each district in the table below:—

District.	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.			Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Cachar	.....	.....	3,29,703	3,35,035	3,29,703	3,35,035	5,332	...	1·62	...
Sylhet	3,66,644	3,66,627	2,55,708	2,61,152	6,22,352	6,27,779	5,427	...	·87	...
Goálpára	11,411	11,411	87,439	86,869	98,850	98,280	.....	570	...	·58
Kámrúp	.....	.....	9,67,174	9,67,846	9,67,174	9,67,846	672	...	·07	...
Darrang	.....	.....	4,60,863	4,72,620	4,60,863	4,72,620	11,757	...	2·55	...
Nowgong.....	.....	.....	4,68,280	4,82,272	4,68,280	4,82,272	13,992	...	2·99	...
Sibságar	.....	.....	7,06,176	7,27,655	7,06,176	7,27,655	21,479	...	3·04	...
Lakhimpur	.....	.....	2,35,551	2,43,710	2,35,551	2,43,710	8,159	...	3·46	...
Nága Hills	... ..	.....	1,440	1,462	1,440	1,462	22	...	1·53	...
Khási and Jaintia Hills	.....	.....	5,434	5,370	5,434	5,370	.....	64	...	1·18
Gáro Hills	12	12	13,806	14,891	13,818	14,903	1,085	...	7·85	...
Total.....	3,78,067	3,78,050	35,31,574	35,98,882	39,09,641	39,76,932	67,925	634		
						Net increase.....	+67,291		+1·72	

11. Both in Cachar and Sylhet the increase was due chiefly to enhancement of the demand on estates settled at progressive rates, and partly to new settlements made during the year. Details of the increase and decrease are shown in the abstract below:—

Explanation of increase and decrease.

	Cachar. Rs.	Sylhet. Rs.
Increase—		
(1) Increase due to new settlements	605	1,233
(2) Ditto re-settlements	.....	1,121
(3) Ditto progressive rates	7,451	3,712
(4) Increased assets of *khás maháls*	.....	1,935
(5) Other causes	15	17
Total ...	8,071	8,018
Decrease—		
(1) Abatement of revenue or removal of estates ...	2,739	2,090
(2) Difference between the *tauzi jama* and actual assets of *khás maháls*.	.....	501
Net increase ...	5,332	5,427

Of the increase of Rs. 55,489 in the Assam Valley, Rs. 5,660, or 10·20 per cent., was on account of the progressive revenue of waste land grants, Rs. 2,417, or 4·36 per cent., on account of the re-classification of land by the cadastral survey party, Rs. 9,089, or 16·38 per cent., on account of the enforcement of Rule 46 of the Settlement Rules under the Land and Revenue Regulation, whereby landowners who resign their land and take it up again were assessed at 50 per cent. above the ordinary rates, and the remainder, Rs. 38,323, or 69·06 per cent., was due to the extension of ordinary cultivation. The following statement shows the classes of tenures under which the increase or decrease in the land revenue demand of the several districts occurred:—

District.	Annual leases.	Periodic leases.	*Nisf-khiráj* estates.	Special tenures.	Waste land grants.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goálpára.....	—348	.....	.....	.....	+78	—570
Kámrúp	+33,103	—32,681	+1	.....	+249	+672
Darrang	+5,461	+4,064	+229	.....	+2,003	+11,757
Nowgong	+15,510	—3,414	.....	—30	+1,926	+13,992
Sibságar.....	+24,063	—3,594	.....	—133	+1,143	+21,479
Lakhimpur	+11,029	—3,127	—4	.....	+261	+8,159
Total.....	+88,518	—38,752	+226	—163	+5,660	+55,489

The cause of the transfer from periodic to annual leases has been explained above in paragraph 9. In Goálpára, the decrease occurred in the revenue of the Eastern Duárs. As special causes of the decrease peculiar to the year, the Deputy-Commissioner mentions the diversion of a stream which irrigated a considerable area in one of the mauzas, the inexperience of a new mauzadár in another, and the general prevalence of cattle-disease throughout the tract. As general causes for the stationary or declining condition of the revenue in the Duárs he mentions the probable fact that the Mech population is not increasing, the creation of new forest reserves, which he thinks leads to the increase of wild animals destructive to the crops, and, lastly, the competition of the zemindárs, who give land rent-free, or at a nominal rent for a few years, to attract cultivators. The disputes which have prevailed for the last three years in the Bijni estate, where many ryots have succeeded in evading payment of rent altogether, have, he thinks, attracted many ryots to settle on zemindári land. The Officiating Commissioner of the Assam Valley is not inclined to attach much weight to these explanations. He observes that the region is very unhealthy, difficult to manage owing to its sparse population, and so much dreaded by outsiders that efficient mauzadárs cannot be obtained, while officials sent there generally fall sick, and leave it as soon as possible. In Kámrúp, there was an increase of Rs. 3,212 in Barpeta, and a decrease of Rs. 2,540 in the Gauháti sub-division, regarding which decrease the Officiating Commissioner reports—

"This decrease is wholly due to the ravages of *kála azár*. In mauzas not affected by this malady there has been an increase. At the regular settlement the mauzas on the south bank included in the Luki and Chamaria tahsils affected by the fever showed so large a decline in revenue that it was apprehended by the Deputy-Commissioner that the mandals, from fear of being stricken down by the malady, were not sufficiently active in searching for resigned lands retaken and new lands taken up. He therefore deputed the Sub-Deputy-Collector attached to the district to enquire into the cause of the falling off, and see how much of the decrease could be made up by supplementary assessments. The Sub-Deputy-Collector visited the greater part of the Luki tahsil, and succeeded in making up in the supplementary settlement to a certain extent the loss sustained in the

regular settlement. His report, which has been quoted by the Deputy-Commissioner, gives a lamentable picture of the desolation caused by this terrible scourge.

The results in the other districts were, on the whole, satisfactory. The Commissioner has furnished a comparative statement showing the land revenue demand of the several sub-divisions in the Assam Valley during the past six years, from which it appears that the demand has risen by 23·52 per cent. in Dibrugarh, 18·68 per cent. in Tezpur, 17·13 per cent. in Sibságar, and 13·82 per cent. in Nowgong, the general increase during this period being Rs. 2,86,359, or 10·58 per cent. Mr. Lyall observes :—

"Compared with 1883-84, the revenue demand of the year under report shows an increase of Rs. 2,86,359, or 10·58 per cent. The figures for previous quinquennial periods will be found in paragraph 28 of Mr. Johnson's report of last year. Dibrugarh, Tezpur, and Sibságar are, it will be seen, our most progressive sub-divisions, and Mangaldai, from which a large emigration goes on to Upper Assam, the least progressive. The stream of emigration is almost as strong from Barpeta and the northern part of the Gauháti sub-division, and there is a good deal from Goálpára also. This Kachári emigration is a comparatively new thing, the course previously taken by that race in their migrations having been down, and not up, the valley. As time goes on, we may expect, in the absence of immigration from the adjacent parts of Bengal, that the land revenue of Goálpára and Lower Assam will tend to become stationary or decadent, while that of Upper Assam will increase, by the transfer of agriculturists from Goálpára, Kámrúp, and Mangaldai, and by the settlement of time-expired immigrant labourers from tea-gardens. It will be seen that the latter element is already becoming important in the spread of cultivation in Tezpur, Sibságar, Jorhát, and Dibrugarh."

In the Gáro Hills the increase is due to extension of cultivation.

Arrear demand.

12. The following statement shows the corrected arrear demand which remained outstanding at the close of the year under report:—

District.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1888.	Changes made in the arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1888.		Arrear demand on the 1st April 1888, as corrected by further enquiries after 1st April 1888.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	83,943	993	3,157	81,779
Sylhet	35,596	1,673	925	36,344
Goálpára	2,725	6	.....	2,731
Kámrúp	.....	138	.....	138
Darrang	48	127	.....	175
Nowgong	3,243	983	.....	4,226
Sibságar	6,121	116	.....	6,237
Lakhimpur	16	207	.....	223
Gáro Hills	538	53	.....	591
Total	1,32,230	4,296	4,082	1,32,444

The reductions of the arrear demand in Cachar and Sylhet are due to the removal of certain estates from the revenue-roll and to the assessment of certain *khás* estates in Sylhet on the actual assets, the additions being caused by the settlement of certain estates with retrospective effect, and the discovery of concealed cultivation in Cachar. The addition in Goálpára represents the revenue of excess land discovered in a holding in mauza Dhubri. The added arrear demand in Kámrúp and Sibságar represents revenue of lands brought under assessment after the submission of the settlement papers for 1887-88. In Nowgong, Rs. 936 of the additions represent the revenue for three years of certain lands decennially settled with a tea-planter with effect from the 1st April 1885, since which date the applicant has been in possession. Rs. 70 of the Lakhimpur additions represent the revenue of a New Lease Rule grant for 1887-88. The rest of the arrear demand added since 1st April 1888 represents the revenue of concealed land discovered by test measurement.

Total demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

13. Out of a total demand of Rs. 41,09,376, including arrears, Rs. 40,40,289, or 98·32 per cent., were collected, Rs. 1,154, or ·03 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 67,933, or 1·65 per cent., remained outstanding on 1st April 1889. The balance outstanding on the 1st April 1888 was Rs. 1,32,230, or 3·30 per cent. On the 1st April 1887 it was Rs. 99,848, or 2·50 per cent. of the whole demand, so that the year under report shows a great improvement in collection. In the districts of Goálpára, Kámrúp, Darrang (the balance shown against this district is nominal

and has been since remitted), Lakhimpur, and the Nága Hills, the whole demand was realised within the year. The total demand, collections, remissions, and balances of each district are given in the subjoined table:—

District.	Demand. Rs.	Collections. Rs.	Remissions. Rs.	Balances. Rs.
Cachar	4,16,814	3,84,793	.....	32,021
Sylhet	6,64,123	6,33,739	1,020	29,364
Goálpára	1,01,011	1,01,011	.....	.....
Kámrúp	9,67,984	9,67,984	.....	.....
Darrang	4,72,795	4,72,697	54	44
Nowgong	4,86,498	4,83,538	.....	2,960
Sibságar	7,33,892	7,30,567	.....	3,325
Lakhimpur	2,43,933	2,43,933	.....	.....
Nága Hills	1,462	1,462	.....	.....
Khási and Jaintia Hills	5,370	5,356	.....	14
Gáro Hills	15,494	15,209	80	205
Total	41,09,376	40,40,289	1,154	67,933

The balance in the district of Cachar was much less than that of the previous year (Rs. 83,943). A further sum of Rs. 25,981 has been collected since the close of the year. The Deputy-Commissioner remarks that the total demand could only be recovered within the year by altering the last dates of payment of the third instalment to January, a measure which would press more hardly on revenue-payers. In Sylhet also the balance was smaller than in 1887-88, and was almost entirely due from temporarily-settled estates. The Deputy-Commissioner reports that the scarcity of ready money in the district in consequence of the bad harvests noticed in last year's report still to a certain extent affects collections prejudicially. Of the arrear balance in this district, Rs. 10,678 have been realised since the year closed. The whole of the unrealised balance in the districts of Nowgong and Sibságar and in the Khási and Jaintia Hills district has been realised, and that in the Gáro Hills is due from the Mechpára B Mahál, managed by the zemindárs, who show the amount as recoverable.

Remissions.

14. The total remissions of the year amounted to Rs. 1,154, as compared with Rs. 2,211 in the preceding year. In 1885-86 and 1886-87 the totals were Rs. 11,310 and Rs. 5,422 respectively. Of the remissions granted in Sylhet, Rs. 540 represent the revenue of land excluded from the revenue-roll, and the balance was on enquiry found irrecoverable, owing to the death, desertion, or poverty of the defaulters. In the Assam Valley districts the remissions amounted to Rs. 54 only, the whole of which appertained to the district of Darrang. Rs. 7 were remitted on account of deaths and desertions in the Tezpur tahsil, and the balance, Rs. 47, was wrongly assessed by the cadastral survey party on a *nisf-khiráj* estate in the sub-division of Mangaldai. The remissions granted in the district of the Gáro Hills were made on the ground that the sums were irrecoverable.

Charges for collection of Government revenue.

15. The following table shows the particulars and cost of collection in the different tahsils of the Cachar district. It does not include payments made direct into the treasury:—

Name of tahsil.	Amount collected.				Cost of collection.	Percentage.
	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Fishery revenue.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sadr	2,15,079	18,988	1,799	2,35,866	3,459	1·47
Hailákándi	1,01,776	9,053	35	1,10,864	2,846	2·57
Katigora	66,824	4,639	2,400	73,863	1,436	1·94
Total	3,83,679	32,680	4,234	4,20,593	7,741	1·84

The cost of collection shows a slight increase during the year, while the percentage has fallen to 1·84 from 2·3 in 1887-88, owing to increase in the amount collected.

The total cost of collection, as well as the amount of land revenue, local rate, and fishery revenue collected at each tahsil in the district of Sylhet are shown below:—

Names of tahsils.	Amount collected.					Cost of collection.	Percentage of cost to amount collected.
	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Fishery revenue.	House and poll-tax.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sadr	94,196	39,956	2,069	.....	1,36,221	2,870	2·11
				Poll-tax.			
Habiganj	1,27,663	55,308	6,819	545	1,90,335	2,916	1·53
South Sylhet	1,13,523	35,163	853	.....	1,49,539	2,551	1·71
Karimganj	96,483	47,831	2,070	.....	1,46,384	1,198	·82
Sunámganj	40,073	36,904	4,063	.....	81,040	764	·94
Jaintia ... Sadr	75,940	5,230	7,058	.....	88,228	2,650	3·00
				House-tax.			
Jaintia ... Kanairghat	63,304	3,664	698	28	67,694	2,397	3·54
				Poll-tax.			
Pratabgarh	19,084	1,088	164	1,591	21,927	1,386	6·32
Hakaluki	4,163	3	2,840	.....	7,006	360	5·14
Total	6,34,429	2,25,147	26,634	2,164	8,88,374	17,092	1·92

On the whole, the percentage of the cost of collections shows a slight decrease. The actual cost increased everywhere, except at South Sylhet, where it diminished considerably, in the sadr tahsil, where it diminished slightly, and in Habiganj and the Hakaluki tahsils, where the cost of establishments was the same as in the previous year.

In Goálpára, Rs. 89,636 were collected from the temporarily-settled estates, of which Rs. 89,445 were collected by the mauzadárs, and Rs. 191 were paid direct into the treasury by a tea-planter and by the lessee of the Government *chars*. The commission paid to the mauzadárs and the pay of the mandals amounted to Rs. 8,400 and Rs. 1,870 respectively. So the total charge was Rs. 10,270, or 11·48 per cent. on the collections made by the mauzadárs.

The collections and charges for survey, settlement, and collection in each of the several districts of Assam Proper during the past two years are shown in the following statement:—

District.	Collections by tahsildárs.		Collections by mauzadárs.		Other collections.		Total.		Charges on collections made by tahsildárs.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Kámrúp	6,00,257	7,75,720	3,09,332	1,34,321	57,694	57,943	9,67,283	9,67,984	29,071	46,655
Darrang	1,34,135	1,94,182	2,98,298	2,44,116	32,103	34,320	4,64,536	4,72,618	7,658	9,921
Nowgong	.....	.....	4,48,108	4,60,140	20,853	23,398	4,68,961	4,83,538	.....	.....
Sibságar	.....	.....	6,83,151	7,03,348	27,119	27,141	7,10,270	7,30,489	.....	.....
Lakhimpur	.....	.....	2,28,500	2,28,651	17,768	15,282	2,46,268	2,43,933	.....	.....
Total	7,34,392	9,69,902	19,67,389	17,70,576	1,55,537	1,58,084	28,57,318	28,98,562	36,729	56,576

District.	Charges on collections made by mauzadárs.		Total charges.		Percentage of charges to					
					Collections by tahsildárs.		Collections by mauzadárs.		Total.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.						
Kámrúp	30,298	20,324	59,369	66,979	4·84	6·01	9·79	15·13	6·13	6·91
Darrang	34,405	30,233	42,063	40,154	5·70	5·11	11·51	12·34	9·05	8·49
Nowgong	47,250	49,019	47,250	49,019	.....	.....	10·54	10·65	10·07	10·13
Sibságar	65,818	66,892	65,818	66,892	.....	.....	9·63	9·51	9·26	9·15
Lakhimpur	27,410	27,547	27,410	27,547	.....	.....	11·99	12·04	11·13	11·29
Total	2,05,181	1,94,015	2,41,910	2,50,591	5·00	5·83	10·42	10·95	8·46	8·64

In Kámrúp the increase in the percentage of the charges in the case of tahsildárs is due to the fact that the arrear pay of some of the tahsildárs and their establishments for 1887-88 was drawn in 1888-89; in the case of mauzadárs it is due to the payments made to certain ex-mauzadárs as compensation for the loss of their mauzas, which have been amalgamated with tahsils. In Darrang the decrease in the rate of charge in the case of tahsildárs is due chiefly to increase in revenue. In the Mangaldai sub-division, in the district of Darrang, it is also due to the fact that the northern tahsil was started only in October, and the establishment therefore paid for half instead of for the whole year. The large increase in the charges of collection by mauzadárs in this sub-division is due to the inclusion of Rs. 2,310 paid to the mauzadárs who lost their mauzas on the formation of the southern tahsil in 1886-87 and Rs. 1,848 paid to the outgoing mauzadárs from the Kalaigaon tahsil in 1888-89.

Collecting agency in the Assam Valley districts.

16. The following statement shows the strength of the collecting establishments in the Assam Valley districts at the close of the year, as compared with the previous year and with the year 1851-52:—

District.	Area of each district.	Number of tahsildárs.		Number of mauzadárs.			Number of mandals.		Average area of each tahsil.	Average area of each mauza.	Average area of each mandal's jurisdiction.
		On 31st March 1888.	On 31st March 1889.	1851-52.	On 31st March 1888.	On 31st March 1889.	On 31st March 1888.	On 31st March 1889.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Sq. miles.								Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.
Goálpára, Eastern Duárs	1,570	...	...	...	16	16	25	25	...	98·12	62·80
Kámrúp	3,631	10	12	120	24	11	304	304	216·45	67·28	11·94
Darrang	3,418	2	3	149	37	28	174	176	167·54	104·12	19·42
Nowgong	3,257	...	...	225	44	43	188	189	...	75·76	17·23
Sibságar	2,855	...	...	127	53	53	211	211	...	53·86	13·53
Lakhimpur	3,723	...	...	108	51	50	98	98	...	74·46	37·98
Total	18,454	12	15	729	225	201	1,000	1,003	206·66	76·77	18·39

The Nalbari and Baroma tahsils, started in the Gauháti sub-division during the year under report, absorbed nine mauzas, and four other mauzas were amalgamated with the Rangia, Hajo, and Tambulpur tahsils. The whole of the sub-division is now administered by tahsildárs. The only mauza now existing in it, Beltola, is an *imperium in imperio;* it is included in the Gauháti tahsil, but the revenue is collected by the mauzadár, who pays it to the tahsildár and receives 30 per cent. as commission.

In the Mangaldai sub-division a new tahsil, called the Kalaigaon or northern tahsil, was started during the year, absorbing nine mauzas. In Nowgong one mauza was split into two parts, and amalgamated with two adjoining mauzas. In Dibrugarh two mauzas were amalgamated with neighbouring mauzas, and one mauza, hitherto amalgamated with another, was separated.

The number of mandals has been increased in Gauháti, Mangaldai, Tezpur, and Nowgong by one in each sub-division. In Barpeta the number was reduced by one. The average area of a mauza varies from 43·71 square miles in Jorhát to 239·98 square miles in Tezpur. The average area over the whole division is now 76·77 square miles, as compared with 71·47 square miles in 1887-88.

The strength of the agency for settlement and collection at the close of the past five years was :—

	Tahsildárs.	Mauzadárs.	Supervisor Kánungos.	Mandals.
In 1884-85	6	283	...	953
„ 1885-86	8	262	2	963
„ 1886-87	10	238	6	983
„ 1887-88	12	225	14	1,000
„ 1888-89	15	200	17	1,003

The monthly emoluments of the mauzadárs during the past year may be classified thus :—

Amount of commission.	Number of mauzadárs.
Rs. 50 and over	135
„ 40 „ less than Rs. 50.....	18
„ 30 „ „ „ 40.....	16
„ 20 „ „ „ 30.....	12
„ „ 20.....	20
Total	201

Of the 21 mauzadárs who drew less than Rs. 20 per month, 14 belong to the district of Lakhimpur.

Redemption of petty estates in Sylhet.

17. No estate was redeemed during the year in the district of Sylhet.

Annual settlements in the Eastern Duárs.

18. The settlement of the five Bhutan Duárs, known as the Eastern Duárs, was, as usual, made under the ordinary Settlement Rules of Assam Proper, the rates of assessment being 8 annas per *bígha* for *basti*, 4 annas for *faringati*, and 8 annas for *rupit*, instead of Re. 1, 8 annas, and 10 annas respectively in Assam Proper. In these Duárs 13,198 annual leases were issued, covering an area of 65,691 acres and yielding a revenue of Rs. 85,113, against 14,137 leases, covering 66,685 acres and assessed to a revenue of Rs. 85,788 in 1887-88. The average area of a holding was 4·98 acres, against 4·71 in 1887-88.

Annual settlement of petty estates in Goálpára.

19. In the Dhubri mauza (consisting of the Dhubri town and a small tract called Latká, a few miles distant) 339 annual leases were issued, covering an area of 118 acres and yielding a revenue of Rs. 859, against 330 leases, covering an area of 118 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 855 in 1887-88. The average area of a holding was ·34 of an acre, against ·35 of an acre in the preceding year.

The two Government *chars* in the Goálpára sub-division, for which there were no bids in 1887-88, were settled during the year for Rs. 23. These *chars* cover an estimated area of 6,039 acres, and are settled annually by public auction.

Annual settlements at full rates in Assam Proper.

20. The following statement shows the number of annual leases and the area so settled in each district of Assam Proper during the past two years. It also shows the average area of a holding in each district.

District.	1887-88. Number of settlements.	1887-88. Area settled in acres.	1887-88. Average area in each holding. Acres.	1888-89. Number of settlements.	1888-89. Area settled in acres.	1888-89. Average area in each holding. Acres.
Kámrúp	78,837	153,317	1·94	85,775	169,345	1·97
Darrang	47,294	87,637	1·85	51,291	89,876	1·75
Nowgong	60,565	122,949	2·03	61,765	126,805	2·05
Sibságar	35,947	45,880	1·27	44,922	58,322	1·29
Lakhimpur	20,420	26,577	1·30	24,123	32,286	1·33
Total	243,063	436,360	1·79	267,876	476,634	1·77

There was thus an increase in the number of leases and the area settled, as compared with the preceding year, in all districts.

Decennial settlements at ten-year leases at full rates.

21. The following statement shows the number of periodic settlements in each of the Assam Valley districts during the past two years, the area covered by them, and the average area of each estate :—

District.	1887-88. Number of settlements.	1887-88. Area settled in acres.	1887-88. Average area of each holding. Acres.	1888-89. Number of settlements.	1888-89. Area settled in acres.	1888-89. Average area of each holding. Acres.
Kámrúp	2,819	8,710	3·09	178	318	1·78
Darrang	234	681	2·91	1,333	3,963	2·97
Nowgong	1,034	2,032	1·96	221	434	1·96
Sibságar	2,112	5,269	2·49	646	2,261	3·50
Lakhimpur	12	568	47·33	85	1,555	18·29
Total	6,211	17,260	2·77	2,463	8,531	3·46

This statement shows fresh decennial leases issued during the year either for waste land or for land hitherto held under annual leases. Conversion of annual into decennial leases is still proceeding, but at a very much diminished rate. The comparatively large number of decennial leases issued during the year in Darrang is due to the re-conversion to that form of tenure of annual leases for lands in mauzas where the orders for a decennial settlement were cancelled in 1886-87. Although the bulk of the land in these mauzas is not held permanently, some few portions are, and for these decennial leases have now been issued. Increase in the number of leases due to the splitting up of old *pattas* by the cadastral survey is not shown in the above statement.

The following table shows the progress of the operation of converting the annual settlement of Assam Proper into a periodic one during the last seven years:—

	Number of estates.	Area. Acres.
1882-83	5,376	22,294
1883-84	156,048	521,854
1884-85	84,541	299,186
1885-86	56,542	221,584
1886-87	21,439	47,180
1887-88	6,211	17,260
1888-89	2,463	8,531
Total	332,620	1,137,889

Of the totals shown above, 274,688 estates, with an area of 981,646 acres, now remain under periodic settlement. The number of estates has been affected to some extent by changes in the rules regarding separate *pattas*. Setting aside this cause, the difference between the total number and area settled in the course of the seven years and the number and area now existing is due to the resignation of land which the event has proved not to be held for permanent cultivation.

The following statement shows the area held under periodic settlement at the end of the year under report in each district. The area supposed to be used for tea cultivation is shown separately:—

District.	Area in acres taken up or transferred from annual in 1888-89 for the cultivation of				Total area in acres settled up to 31st March 1889, at full rates for the cultivation of			
	Ordinary crops.	Tea.		Total.	Ordinary crops.	Tea.		Total.
		By Natives.	By Europeans.			By Natives.	By Europeans.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Goálpára	.....	...	...	.....	220	.....	192	412
Kámrúp.....	318	...	...	318	305,254	2,029	912	308,195
Darrang.....	3,850	...	113	3,963	126,725	83	12,498	139,306
Nowgong	228	...	206	434	120,184	288	2,601	123,073
Sibságar	1,459	59	743	2,261	274,390	3,394	43,205	320,989
Lakhimpur.....	888	....	667	1,555	70,465	1,253	18,365	90,083
Total	6,743	59	1,729	8,531	897,238	7,047	77,773	982,058

Settlement of *nisf-khiráj* holdings.

22. The number and area of *nisf-khiráj* estates in each district and the year to which the settlement extends are shown in the following statement:—

District.	Number and area of *nisf-khiráj* estates in the district.		Year to which settlement extends.
	Number.	Area in acres.	
Kámrúp	1,537	153,367	1892-93
Darrang	78	16,540	1888-89 & 1889-90
	13 (*a*)	17,605	1898-99
Nowgong	25	5,042	1888-89
Sibságar	346	5,088	1889-90
Lakhimpur	32	1,262	1888-89 & 1891-92
	4 (*b*)	138	1888-89
Total.....	2,035	199,042	

With the exception of the estates belonging to the Darrang Rájas settled for 20 years (*a*), and the pension estates of Lakhimpur settled on annual leases (*b*), all *nisf-khiráj* estates are settled for 10 years. In Kámrúp one estate was relinquished, having relapsed into jungle. The increase of two estates, with 324 acres, in the district of Darrang, is due to the fact that two estates of the Darrang Rájas, wrongly assessed by the Deputy-Commissioner in 1886-87 at full rates, because he considered them to have been alienated, were, on appeal to the Commissioner, restored to the *nisf-khiráj* category. There has been a decrease of 3 acres in the estates of the Darrang Rájas settled for 20 years (*a*) owing to the area having been assessed at full rates on alienation. The decennial settlement of the *nisf-khiráj* estates in Nowgong fell in on the 31st March 1887, but, as the estates were under cadastral survey, the term was extended to the 31st March 1889. The cadastral survey of the estates has now been concluded, and they will be settled this year for another term of 10 years on the basis of that survey. Similarly, in Sibságar the settlement of the *nisf-khiráj* estates expired on the 31st March 1889, but the Chief Commissioner has extended the term to the 31st March 1890. Some of the *nisf-khiráj* estates in Darrang and some of those in Lakhimpur will come under resettlement during the current year.

23. There is one *chamua* in the Barpeta sub-division, covering an area of 515 acres and assessed to a revenue of Rs. 951. This estate has been settled decennially on the results of the cadastral survey. In the Dibrugarh sub-division there are two *khiráj kháts*, covering an area of 122 acres and assessed to a revenue of Rs. 230.

Chamua and *khiráj-kháts.*

24. The tenures settled at special rates and the area covered by them are shown in the following statement. The decrease in the number and area of the ten-twenties in Sibságar is due to the death of the holders, whose lands have been re-settled at full rates:—

Settlement of special tenures.

	1887-88.		1888-89.	
	No.	Area, acres.	No.	Area, acres.
Jalukbarikhát (Kámrúp)	1	298	1	298
Khát of the Aunihati Shatra (Nowgong)...	1	1,976	1	1,976
Ten-twenties (Sibságar)	38	841	35	761
Six-pie lá-khiráj estates (Lakhimpur)	7	2,087	7	2,087
Ditto (Darrang)	2	353	2	353
Total	49	5,555	46	5,475

25. The following statement exhibits the number of leases, the area and revenue assessed under each class of tenures in each district of the Assam Valley, and the changes that have been taking place in the different tenures during the last four years :—

Tenures in the Assam Valley districts.

District.	Permanent.			Annual.			Decennial.			Special tenures.		
	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goálpára	19	347,667	11,411	13,539	71,848	85,995	12	412	739	..	.....	.....
Kámrúp	..	.....	.....	85,775	169,345	2,89,513	75,105	308,195	5,82,891	1	298	251
Darrang	..	.....	.....	51,291	89,876	1,69,966	47,252	139,306	2,70,526	2	353	33
Nowgong	..	.....	.....	61,765	126,805	2,24,162	56,558	123,073	2,36,212	1	1,976	722
Sibságar	..	.....	.....	44,922	58,322	1,08,212	71,919	320,989	5,88,596	35	761	1,315
Lakhimpur	..	.....	.....	24,125	32,408	60,174	23,855	90,083	1,67,013	7	2,087	63
Total for 1888-89	19	347,667	11,411	281,417	548,604	9,33,022	274,701	982,058	18,45,977	46	5,475	2,384
1885-86	19	347,667	11,411	221,036	450,903	7,18,537	286,116	1,029,953	19,36,532	18	9,667	6,212
1886-87	19	347,667	11,411	236,038	483,601	7,98,901	285,578	1,020,315	19,12,917	71	5,858	3,013
1887-88	19	347,667	11,411	257,532	503,278	8,49,504	279,450	1,004,400	18,84,729	49	5,555	2,547

District.	*Nisf-khiráj.*			Waste land grants.			Total revenue-paying area.		
	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.	Number.	Acreage.	Revenue.
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goálpára	.....	.....	.....	1	360	135	13,571	420,287	98,280
Kámrúp	1,537	153,367	92,555	31	6,458	2,686	162,449	637,663	9,67,846
Darrang	91	34,145	16,690	134	40,489	15,405	98,770	304,169	4,72,620
Nowgong	25	5,042	3,887	98	35,420	17,160	118,447	292,316	4,82,143
Sibsagar	346	5,088	3,036	161	53,451	26,496	117,383	438,611	7,27,655
Lakhimpur	36	1,400	1,311	95	34,686	15,149	48,118	160,664	2,43,710
Total for 1888-89	2,035	199,042	1,17,479	520	170,864	76,981	558,738	2,253,710‡	29,92,254
1885-86	2,017	199,814	1,18,857	510	173,189	61,787	509,778	2,211,193	28,52,836
1886-87	2,034	198,897	1,17,668	515*	172,531	66,023	524,255	2,228,869	29,09,928
1887-88	2,034	198,748	1,17,253	512†	170,995	71,450	539,596	2,230,643	29,36,894

* Includes 25 New Lease Rule grants, not yet assessed.
Ditto 19 " " "
† Includes 23 grants not yet assessed.

The causes of the principal changes that have occurred in the annual and decennial leases are stated in paragraph 9. The area and revenue of the special tenures show a steady decrease. In the case of *Nisf-khiráj* estates both area and revenue are less than in 1885-86. In waste land grants, the revenue increases each year in a considerable amount, while the area is gradually diminishing. The increase is due to the progressive revenue at which these estates are assessed and the decrease in area chiefly to the resignation of lands, which are found not to be suitable for tea cultivation.

In the table below, the average area and revenue of each class of estate are given for the last seven years:—

Year.	Annual.		Decennial.		Special tenures.		*Nisf-khiráj.*		Waste land grants.	
	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs. As. P.	Acres.	Rs. As. P.	Acres.	Rs. As. P.	Acres.	Rs. As. P.	Acres.	Rs. As. P.	Acres.
1882-83	1 12 9	3·1	1 12 4	5·6	1 1 4	143·4	0 9 2	100·1	0 3 3	384·6
1883-84	1 11 9	3·1	1 14 4	3·4	0 14 1	154·0	0 9 5	99·0	0 3 10	382·8
1884-85	1 10 7	2·5	1 14 2	3·5	0 12 11	134·2	0 9 5	99·1	0 4 11	356·9
1885-86	1 9 5	2·04	1 14 1	3 5	0 10 3	120·8	0 9 5	99·06	0 5 8	339·5
1886-87	1 10 5	2·04	1 13 11	3·5	0 8 2	82·4	0 9 5	97·7	0 6 1	335·01
1887-88	1 11 0	1·95	1 14 0	3·5	0 7 4	113·3	0 9 5	97·7	0 6 8	333·97
1888-89	1 11 4	1·95	1 14 1	3·6	0 6 11	119·0	0 9 5	97·8	0 7 2	328·58

The decrease in the average area of annual leases is mainly due to splitting up of holdings, and the rise in revenue to the settlement of more *basti* and *rupit* lands under these leases than in former years. The increased revenue in the case of waste land grants is due, as stated above, to progressive rates of assessment.

The proportion of different classes of land is shown below for the past five years:—

	Basti.	Rupit.	Faringati.
1884-85	7·98	51·02	40·99
1885-86	7·78	50·21	42·01
1886-87	7·77	53·04	39·18
1887-88	7·82	53·35	38·83
1888-89	7·94	53·95	38·10

The larger proportion of *basti* and *rupit* is due, as explained in previous reports, to the transfer to these heads from *faringati*. The Commissioner writes—

"The large transfers from *faringati* to *rupit* in Dhubri, Barpeta, and Gauháti are due chiefly to classification of *bao* cultivation at *rupit* rates. These transfers ought to have been made in 1886-87. The large transfers from *faringati* to *basti* in the Mangaldai sub-division are due to the cadastral survey, by which garden lands were classed as *basti* instead of as *faringati*. In Nowgong, the transfers are due to land growing *áhu dhan* having been cultivated with *bao dhán* in 1888-89, in consequence of there having been more water during the year."

Area and classification of land assessed at full and half rates in the Assam Valley.

26. The following table shows the area in each district assessed at full and half rates, as it stood at the close of the past year and at the close of the previous year:—

District.	*Basti.*		*Rupit.*		*Faringati.*		Total up to end of 1888-89.			Total up to end of 1887-88.		
	Full rate.	Half rate.	Full rate.	Half rate.	Full rate.	Half rate.	Full rate.	Half rate.	Total.	Full rate.	Half rate.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goálpára, Eastern Duárs....	5,802	....	40,255	....	19,774	....	65,831	....	65 831	66,829	.....	66,829
Kámrúp.....	41,448	12,168	212,272	51,301	223,820	33,911	477,540	97,380	574,920	478,734	97,380	576,114
Darrang	21,183	1,777	156,759	13,109	51,240	2,128	229,182	17,014	246,196	226,697	16,799	243,496
Nowgong	15,694	609	126,273	1,467	107,911	2,089	249,878	4,165	254,043	247,774	4,165	251,939
Sibságar	22,968	114	217,926	2,881	138,417	135	379,311	3,130	382,441	368,765	3,130	371,895
Lakhimpur	9,006	107	65,433	1,094	48,052	199	122,491	1,400	123,891	118,493	1,404	119,897
Total	116,101	14,775	818,918	69,852	589,214	38,462	1,524,233	123,089	1,647,322	1,507,292	122,878	1,630,170
	130,876		888,770		627,676		1,647,322		.....	1,630,170		.....

The above statement does not include the figures relating to Dhubri town, the *chars* in the Goálpára sub-division, and the lands held by the Sonthal colonists at half rates.

At the close of the year under report 1,524,233 acres were assessed at full rates, and 123,089 acres at half rates, against 1,507,292 acres at full rates and 122,878 acres at half rates in 1887-88. The result of the two years in each district is shown below:—

District.	1887-88.				1888-89.			
	Full rate.		Half rate.		Full rate.		Half rate.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goálpára, Eastern Duárs	.....	1,132	.....	.....	.....	998	.....	.....
Kámrúp	5,743	.....	.....	312	.....	1,194	.....	.....
Darrang	.....	2,231	.....	103	2,485	.....	215	.....
Nowgong	.....	1,513	.....	.....	2,104	.....	.....	.....
Sibságar	7,365	.....	.....	.....	10,546	.....	.....	.....
Lakhimpur	951	.....	.....	.....	3,998	.....	.....	4
Total	14,059	4,876	.....	415	19,133	2,192	215	4
Net	9,183	.....	.....	415	16,941	.....	211	.....

Land assessed at full rates exhibits an increase in all the sub-divisions except Dhubri in the Goálpára district and Gauháti; the largest decrease occurred in the latter sub-division. The net increase is 16,941 acres, of which the Sibságar district alone contributed 10,546 acres. In 1887-88 it was 9,183 acres, in 1886-87, 22,939 acres, and in 1885-86 51,170 acres, so that the year was not a very good one. *Nisf-khiráj* land shows an increase in Mangaldai and a decrease in Dibrugarh. In the former sub-division the increase is due to re-transfer of some land wrongly assessed by the Deputy-Commissioner in 1886-87 at *khiráj* rates on alienation; in the latter sub-division the decrease is due to the death of a shareholder in a pension *nisf-khiráj* estate, whose land has been assessed on his death at full rates.

The following table shows the proportion of the three classes of cultivation in each district:—

District.	*Basti.* Per cent.	*Rupit.* Per cent.	*Faringati.* Per cent.
Goálpára, Eastern Duárs	8·80	61·14	30·04
Kámrúp	9·32	45·84	44·82
Darrang	9·33	68·99	21·68
Nowgong	6·41	50·30	43·29
Sibságar	6·03	57·73	36·22
Lakhimpur	7·35	53·70	38·95
Total	7·94	53·95	38·10

It will be seen that there is a gradual rise in the classification throughout the division. This table is worthy of attentive study by district officers. The high proportion of *basti* in Darrang has already been explained. For Nowgong we shall shortly have the results of the cadastral survey. The Sibságar district is unique in the low proportion of *basti* which it presents.

Fluctuations in cultivation in the Assam Valley.

27. The following statement shows the fluctuations in cultivation in each district :—

District.	Cultivation at close of 1887-88.		Resigned on or before 31st December 1887.		Resigned land re-taken in 1888-89.		New lands taken up in 1888-89.		Cultivation at close of 1888-89. (total of columns 2, 4, and 5, minus column 3).		Area of fluctuating cultivation, being total area relinquished and not re-taken in the last three years.	
	Area.	Revenue.	Area.	Revenue.	Area.	Revenue.	Area.	Revenue.	Area.	Revenue.	Area.	Percentage of resignation to total cultivation at close of 1888-89.
1	2		3		4		5		6		7	
	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	
Goálpára, Eastern Duárs	66,877	86,107	26,601	27,489	16,191	16,321	9,416	10,443	65,883	85,432	27,538	41·79
Kámrúp	478,734	8,71,982	85,589	1,46,445	36,126	61,597	48,219	85,270	477,540	8,72,404	145,125	30·39
Darrang	226,697	4,36,967	21,861	38,236	5,151	10,427	19,195	37,333	229,182	4,40,492	32,651	14·24
Nowgong	247,774	4,48,278	35,553	57,651	12,760	28,688	24,897	41,059	249,878	4,60,374	61,245	24·50
Sibságar	368,765	6,76,339	14,373	23,941	4,000	8,788	20,919	35,622	379,311	6,96,808	31,725	8·36
Lakhimpur	118,493	2,19,285	7,504	12,785	835	1,590	10,667	19,097	122,491	2,27,187	19,357	15·80
Total	1,507,340	27,32,958	191,431	3,06,496	75,063	127,411	1,33,313	2,28,824	1,524,285	27,82,697	317,641	20·88

The difference of 52 acres between the figures shown in the above statement and those shown in paragraph 26 as settled at full rates represents land settled with the Sonthal colonists and assessed at half rates, which is included in the above statement, but omitted from paragraph 26.

The area of resigned land re-taken and new land taken up shows an increase of 16,945 acres and Rs. 49,739 in revenue, as compared with the total area resigned. The following table shows details for each district :—

District.	Increase or decrease in area taken up or re-taken, as compared with the area resigned.	Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Acres.	Rs.
Goálpára (Dhubri)	—994	—675
Kámrúp	—1,194	+422
Darrang	+2,485	+9,525
Nowgong	+2,104	+12,096
Sibságar	+10,546	+20,469
Lakhimpur	+3,998	+7,902
Total	+16,945	+49,739

Relinquishments.

28. The following table shows the resignations of estates and parts of estates. Partial relinquishments have been treated as entire relinquishments, that is, the table shows, not *pattas* relinquished, but *pattas* in which relinquishment has occurred. The area resigned in 1887-88 and 1888-89, and the percentage which this formed of the whole settled area, are also shown in the statement. The resignations of December 1887, that is, of 1887-88, affected the

settlement of the succeeding year, that is, of 1888-89, the year under report. The resignations of 1888-89 here shown will affect the area of the current year:—

Sub-division.	Annual leases.											
	Total number of *pattas*.		Total area assessed.		Total number of *pattas* in which relinquishments occurred.		Total area resigned.		Proportion of relinquishments to the total			
									Number of *pattas*.		Area assessed.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
1	2		3		4		5		6			
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.
Dhubri, Eastern Duárs	14,137	13,198	66,685	65,691	5,103	5,694	21,717	19,088	36·09	43·14	32·56	29·05
Barpeta	24,720	24,733	58,867	61,567	8,828	10,648	29,725	28,499	35·71	43·05	50·49	46·28
Gauháti	54,117	61,042	91,450	107,778	13,220	13,483	36,031	34,226	24·42	22·08	38·14	31·75
Mangaldai	27,194	29,854	58,904	59,825	3 919	4,914	6,464	8,338	14·41	16·46	10·97	13·93
Tezpur	20,100	21,437	28,733	30,051	2,986	2,822	4,284	4,273	14·84	13·16	14·90	14·21
Nowgong	60,565	61,765	122,949	126,805	12,832	11,952	33,883*	23,998	21·18	19·35	27·43	18·92
Golághát	11,400	13,352	13,389	14,809	1,507	1,488	4,466	3,068	13·21	11·14	33·35	20·71
Jorhát	12,063	13,931	15,858	18,819	1,484	2,031	3,412	4,422	12·30	14·57	21·51	23·49
Sibságar	12,484	17,639	16,633	24,694	518	563	970	642	4·14	3·19	5·33	2·59
North Lakhimpur	8,535	9,742	9,784	11,682	1,787	1,932	2,307	2,644	20·93	19·83	23·57	22·63
Dibrugarh	11,887	14,383	16,908	20,726	1,010	2,158	920	3,225	8·49	15·00	5·44	15·56
Total	257,202	281,076	503,160	542,447	53,194	57,685	144,179	132,418	20·68	20·52	28·62	24·41

Sub-division.	Decennial leases.											
	Total number of *pattas*.		Total area assessed.		Total number of *pattas* in which relinquishments occurred.		Total area resigned.		Proportion of relinquishments to the total			
									Number of *pattas*.		Area assessed.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	7		8		9		10		11			
			Acres.	Acres.			Acres.	Acres.			Acres.	Acres.
Dhubri, Eastern Duárs	1	1	192	192	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Barpeta	14,391	13,294	40,490	38,304	1,348	892	2,363	1,513	9·36	6·70	5·83	3·94
Gauháti	66,357	61,810	284,927	269,891	5,069	4,574	13,916	14,098	7·63	7·40	4·88	5·22
Mangaldai	28,670	31,931	89,662	89,837	930	2,132	2,282	4,181	3·24	6·67	2·54	4·65
Tezpur	15,402	15,321	49,398	49,469	552	441	970	782	3·58	2·87	1·97	1·58
Nowgong	57,144	56,558	124,825	123,073	928	1,321	1,670*	1,420	1·62	2·33	1·67	1·15
Golághát	20,217	19,876	85,981	86,035	352	241	541	266	1·74	1·21	·62	·30
Jorhát	29,941	30,039	128,802	128,828	213	135	540	183	·71	·44	·41	·14
Sibságar	22,620	22,004	108,102	106,126	850	367	2,235	1,028	3·75	1·66	2·06	·96
North Lakhimpur	11,578	10,981	26,031	24,713	753	543	1,357	780	6·50	4·94	5·21	3·15
Dibrugarh	13,118	12,874	65,770	65,370	427	351	1,130	1,135	3·25	2·72	1·71	1·73
Total	279,439	274,689	1,004,180	981,838	11,422	10,997	27,004	25,386	4·08	4·00	2·73	2·58

* The figures reported by the Deputy-Commissioner in 1887-88 were wrong.

In 1886-87, 38·18 per cent. of the area under annual leases in the Eastern Duárs was resigned, in 1887-88 the percentage was 32·56, and in the year under report it has fallen to 29·05. Since 1886-87 the Sub-Deputy-Collector, who has been deputed to the Duárs during the cold weather, has received on the spot applications for resignation. In the first year of this new arrangement relinquishments were numerous, because many were filed which would not have been presented had the applicants been obliged to go to Dhubri. The Deputy-Commissioner thinks that they have now reached their normal level. In Assam Proper resignations of annual leases were fewer than in 1887-88, except in Mangaldai, Jorhát, and Dibrugarh. In Mangaldai the increase is attributed chiefly to changes of classification effected by the cadastral survey. Garden lands, as defined in the new Settlement Rules, were formerly, for the most part, treated as *faringati*; at the cadastral survey they were to a large extent classed as *basti*. The Deputy-Commissioner states that the ryots think that if they resign these lands, they will, on retaking them, get them at *faringati* rates. The increase in Jorhát is attributed to the large area resigned in the Majuli, and in Dibrugarh it is ascribed to the fact that in the previous year there were no resignations in the very fluctuating mauza of Ujáu Nakhankhola, where the ryots had no time to file relinquishments, as the mauza was settled on the 30th December 1887.

In 1886-87, 21·97 per cent. of the annual *pattas* and 26·15 per cent. of the area settled under them were resigned in the Dibrugarh sub-division, but, as stated in the report for 1887-88, these proportions were abnormally high. The figures for the year under report compare favourably with those for 1885-86, when the proportions were 13·69 and 15·06 per cent. The decrease of resignations in the other sub-divisions of Assam Proper is attributed to the new Rule 46 of the Settlement Rules, which declares that settlement-holders who resign their land and take it up again the following year shall be liable to be assessed for one year at 50 per cent. above the ordinary rates.

Except in Gauháti and Mangaldai, resignations of land under decennial leases have been fewer than in 1887-88. In Gauháti the increase is attributed to the ravages of *kála-azár*, and in Mangaldai to the change of classification effected by the cadastral survey.

Proportion of settled area to total area of each sub-division and area available for settlement in the Assam Valley districts.

29. The following statement shows the proportion which the settled area of each sub-division bears to the total area. It also shows the area available for settlement in each sub-division. The permanently-settled tracts of the Goálpára district are not included in this statement:—

Sub-division.	Total area of district.	Area settled.	Area not available for settlement.			Area available for settlement (difference between column 2 and total columns 3-6).	Percentage of area settled to the total area of the district.	Percentage of the area available for settlement in each district.
			Revenue-free tenures, including fee-simple grants.	Forest reserves.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		
Dhubri	1,005,246	66,603	.....	400,009	400,009	538,634	6·62	53·58
Goálpára	6,039	6,039	.....	.....	.....	.....	100·00	.....
Total Goálpára	1,011,285	72,642	.....	400,009	400,009	538,634	7·18	53·26
Barpeta	784,640	134,402	1,115	.....	1,115	649,123	17·12	82·72
Gauháti	1,539,200	503,261	49,680	83,688	133,368	902,571	32·69	58·63
Total Kámrúp	2,323,840	637,663	50,795	83,688	134,483	1,551,694	27·44	66·77
Mangaldai	797,042	185,239	26,186	13,212	39,398	572,405	23·24	71·81
Tezpur	1,390,648	118,956	31,520	177,499	209,019	1,062,673	8·55	76·41
Total Darrang	2,187,690	304,195	57,706	190,711	248,417	1,635,078	13·90	74·74
Nowgong	2,084,936	293,127	24,459	71,230	95,689	1,696,120	14·05	81·35
Golághát	606,271	117,100	30,350	60,875	91,225	397,946	19·31	65·63
Jorhát	587,451	157,523	99,316	11,823	111,139	318,789	26·81	54·26
Sibságar	633,273	163,988	41,261	29,792	71,053	398,232	25·89	62·88
Total Sibságar	1,826,995	438,611	170,927	102,490	273,417	1,114,967	24·00	61·02
North Lakhimpur	742,558	45,707	11,024	18,906	29,930	666,921	6·15	89·81
Dibrugarh	1,640,520	114,995	107,234	199,281	306,515	1,219,010	7·00	74·30
Total Lakhimpur	2,383,078	160,702	118,258	218,187	336,445	1,885,931	6·74	79·13
Grand Total	11,817,824	1,906,940	422,145	1,066,315	1,488,460	8,422,424	16·13	71·26

The proportion which the settled area has borne to the total area in the last six years is as follows :—

1883-84	15·06
1884-85	15·44
1885-86	15·77
1886-87	15·92
1887-88	15·93
1888-89	16·13

Compared with 1887-88 the total settled area shows an increase of 23,227 acres. 211 acres have been settled by the grant of favourable terms, to attract immigrants to the Province. In Dhubri 22 acres were held revenue-free for one year by the Sonthals in the Guma Duár. In Tezpur 26 acres are held revenue-free for three years by Nepalese immigrants. In Nowgong 125 acres have been granted revenue-free for three years to cultivators on the Laokhoa road, with the view of keeping the neighbourhood of the road free of jungle. The Nepalese immigrants in Lakhimpur held only 38 acres of land. The Deputy-Commissioner states that the scheme has been a failure; the people cultivated a little, but really kept buffaloes and sold the milk. He finds that there are altogether nine families settled in the colony, who cultivate in a desultory way the 38 acres. The three years for which the land was allowed revenue-free have expired, and it will be brought under full assessment during the present year.

30. The following table shows the area of cultivation, the measurement of which has been tested during the past two years (1) by the district and sub-divisional officers and their assistants, (2) by selected mauzadárs and amíns, and (3) by subordinate executive establishments in each district. The statement does not show the measurements tested in cadastrally-surveyed mauzas by means of check-lines:—

Test measurement work done by district officers and subordinates in mauzas not cadastrally surveyed in the Assam Valley districts.

District.	1887-88.				1888-89.				
	By district or sub-divisional officers.	By selected mauzadárs and amíns.	By subordinate executive establishments.	Total.	By district or sub-divisional officers.	By selected mauzadárs and amíns.	By subordinate executive establishments.	By tahsildárs.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goálpára	102	11,339	11,218	22,659	...	6,380	5,732	...	12,112
Kámrúp	1,050	6,057	.....	7,107	1,147	2,211	575	1,216	5,149
Darrang	28	177	4,791	4,996	197	308	2,749	1,569	4,823
Nowgong	360	.....	.....	360	304	2,341	1,812	...	4,457
Sibságar.....	1,336	2,228	3,689	7,253	457	1,768	1,228	...	3,453
Lakhimpur.....	78	360	5,304	5,742	554	.....	2,663	...	3,217
Total	2,954	20,161	25,002	48,117	2,659	13,008	14,759	2,785	33,211

The Chief Commissioner has already noticed, in reviewing the report of the Agricultural Department in Assam for 1888-89, that it is matter for regret that less testing of mauzadárs' measurements was done during the year under review than during the preceding season. The Commissioner of the Assam Valley makes the following observations in connection with the testing work done in each district of his division:—

"In 1887-88 special arrangements were made for testing measurements in the Eastern Duárs, the result of which was, as reported in paragraph 69 of the report for that year, the discovery of much concealed cultivation. This year I obtained the Chief Commissioner's sanction to the addition of an amín to the survey staff already in the district, and continued the work of re-measurement which had been commenced last year. Four mauzas, *viz.*, Bijni Circle V., Sidli Circle III. (with the exception of a portion which has since been resurveyed), Ripu, and Guma were resurveyed during the year. The short outturn of work done during the year is due partly to the employment of the Sub-Deputy-Collector in other work, partly to the death of his clerk, who worked independently, and also to the employment of only one amín as compared with two employed in the previous year. The work to be done, that is, the cultivation in mauzas which had not recently been measured, was much less than last year, and a larger establishment was not required. The Deputy-Commissioner tested no measurements himself, because his tour took him through only two mauzas (Guma and Ripu), both of which were wholly remeasured during the year.

"The sub-divisional officer of Barpeta tested the measurements of a somewhat larger area than in 1887-88. He had planned a larger outturn of work, but was prevented from carrying it out by ill-health in December, by the temporary withdrawal of the second officer (whose attendance at Gauháti was required in connection with the settlement of the town lands), and by visits of inspection by the Deputy-Commissioner and Chief Commissioner. His explanation is satisfactory. He reports that in testing measurements he selected remote and unfrequented parts of mauzas. He has also tested 71 *bighas* odd in the Bajali tahsil by means of check-lines.

"In the Gauháti sub-division district officers did no testing work (except the check-lines run by the Deputy-Commissioner and mentioned below). The tahsildárs tested 777 acres, and the Sub-Deputy-Collector 569 acres in mauzas not surveyed cadastrally. The Deputy-Commissioner explains that the short outturn of work done by the tahsildárs is due to their being busily engaged in land revenue collection, and that orders have been issued to them to test measurements during April, May, and June, and report the result weekly. The subject has already been fully discussed in a separate correspondence (*vide* Secretary's No. 1,089, dated the 9th April 1889).

"The decrease in the area tested in mauzas not cadastrally surveyed in the Mangaldai sub-division is attributed to the Sub-Deputy-Collector being away on sick leave for the whole of the field season.

"In Nowgong there has been a large increase in testing work, as compared with the area tested in 1887-88; but in 1887-88 the work done in this district was abnormally small. Testing during the year was confined to the *chapari* mauzas, which have not come under cadastral survey.

"Regarding the decrease in the testing work done in the Sibságar district, the Deputy-Commissioner writes as follows :—

"'As the professional survey party is engaged in testing the mauzadárs' work, it was not considered necessary to devote so much time to this work, which would in many cases have been sheer waste. Indeed, the orders of the Commissioner were that it was useless to test measurement work which will be shortly tested by the professional survey party. The case is different in mauzas not coming under cadastral measurement. But these mauzas are in remote quarters, have a sparse population, and few public officers. Officers cannot devote much of their touring time to such mauzas.'

"The Deputy-Commissioner forgets the instructions clearly laid down in paragraph 28 of the Provincial Land Revenue Report for 1887-88, to which his special attention was invited by me in my letter No. 284, dated the 17th January 1889. Testing of measurement in remote mauzas, where officers seldom go in the course of their ordinary tours, is precisely what is required. No part of the Sibságar district can be considered really difficult of access, except some portions of the Majuli. There is no district in the Province so well provided with roads. The Sub-Deputy-Collector attached to the Jorhát sub-division, having been deputed to the cadastral survey, could do no testing during the year. The Deputy-Commissioner explains that the sub-divisional officer of Golághát was sent on special duty into the Nága Hills district with reference to the railway concession, and was partly occupied with other important work. The Sub-Deputy-Collector attached to the sub-division is reported to have tested measurements in mauzas which will not come under the cadastral survey, but his total outturn of work is very small.

"The increase in the area tested by the district and the sub-divisional officers in the Lakhimpur district is satisfactory. No selected mauzadárs or amíns were employed in either sub-division. The Deputy-Commissioner does not consider the system of test measurements by selected mauzadárs of much use, and I agree with him. The testing work done by the subordinate executive establishment, especially in the Dibrugarh sub-division, has greatly fallen off. This result is due principally to the Sub-Deputy-Collectors and the Government surveyor being employed in measuring *nisf-khiráj* land, with a view to re-settlement for ten years. It is also partly due to the absence of one Sub-Deputy-Collector on sick leave for a portion of the field season, and to the resignation of his appointment by another from the 12th February 1889. In the North Lakhimpur sub-division, 1,297 acres were surveyed cadastrally by the Sub-Deputy-Collector in mauza Maskhowa. In Dibrugarh, the Sub-Deputy-Collector and Government surveyor surveyed some land cadastrally in mauzas Jugibahar and Jokai."

The Government of India in reviewing the Revenue Administration Report of this Province for 1887-88 (Revenue and Agricultural Department letter No. $\frac{9}{45}\frac{17}{7}$ R., dated the 17th December 1888) laid stress on the importance of testing the mandals' measurements through the tahsildárs. During the current year the promotion and confirmation of several tahsildárs who have failed to appear for examination in surveying has been stopped, and further orders have been issued to secure compliance with the rule requiring tahsildárs to test measurements in November, in which month it has been ascertained that little of the revenue is paid in.

Result of test measurements.

31. The following statement shows the total amount of testing done in each district of the measurements reported by mauzadárs:—

District.	1887-88.					1888-89.				
	Area shown by mauzadárs.	Area as tested.	Percentage of errors in mauzadárs' area.			Area shown by mauzadárs.	Area as tested.	Percentage of errors in mauzadárs' area.		
			Excess.	Deficiency.	Net.			Excess.	Deficiency.	Net.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Acres.	Acres.				Acres.	Acres.			
Goálpára	21,831	22,659	5·18	8·97	—3·79	12,281	12,112	10·17	8·78	+1·39
Kámrúp	7,143	7,107	2·12	1·62	+0·50	5,131	5,149	1·63	1·98	—·35
Darrang	4,739	4,996	4·95	10·38	—5·43	4,185	4,498	1·34	8·81	—7·47
Nowgong	366	360	3·31	1·66	+1·65	4,016	4,457	4·57	15·55	—10·98
Sibságar	6,937	7,253	2·24	6·80	—4·56	3,415	3,453	1·94	3·04	—1·10
Lakhimpur	4,823	5,742	4·78	23·84	—19·06	2,724	3,217	2·49	20·58	—18·09
Total	45,839	48,117	.....	.....	.....	31,752	32,886	.....	.....	.....
Average.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—4·97	.....	.....	.....	.....	—3·57

The above statement does not include 325 acres tested by a tahsildár, of the result of which he is said to have kept no record.

In the Eastern Duárs, 12,112 acres were re-surveyed during the year at a cost of about one anna five pie per acre. The proportion of error found, both excess and deficiency, was very great. The net result was a decrease of 169 acres in area and of Rs. 248 in revenue.

In Barpeta and Gauháti the result of the test measurements was on the whole very favourable to the mauzadárs and mandals.

The Sub-Deputy-Collector attached to the Tezpur sub-division was employed in measuring mauza Bishnath. He measured 2,586 acres returned by the mauzadár, and discovered a net increase of 163 acres, or 6·30 per cent. In 1887-88 he succeeded in producing an increase of 6·41 per cent.

The large difference between the area shown by the mauzadárs and the area found by test measurement in Nowgong is attributed to concealment of cultivation. Measurements were tested in three *chapari* mauzas (Hatichong, Juria, and Mayong), in all of which serious errors were discovered. In one mauza (Mayong) land cultivated with *bao dhán* was found classified as *faringati*, instead of as *rupit*. The errors disclosed were exceedingly discreditable to the mauzadárs and mandals.

The Deputy-Commissioner comments thus on the results:—

"The mauzadárs are no doubt responsible for the state of things discovered in their mauzas; but I think this is to some extent due to the best mandals in the district having been taken away, both in 1887-88 and 1888-89, for employment in the cadastral survey work, and the mauzadárs having had to work without them. It is true that I allowed them some substitutes for a short time, but, as the persons appointed were quite new to the mauzas where they were employed, they were not of much use to the mauzadárs, and could not hunt out all new cultivation. In *chapari* mauzas the villagers break up patches of land in different parts of the mauza and in the midst of dense jungle without making any application, and unless the mandals are experienced men, thoroughly acquainted with every part of their jurisdiction, it is hardly possible for them to bring under assessment all these small bits of land taken up in different directions in the midst of jungle. By taking away these mandals Government gained to some extent in getting the cadastral survey work performed at a cheaper rate by the local agency; but I fear that, on the other hand, the efficiency of the revenue administration of the district to some extent suffered for want of good mandals."

In the district of Sibságar the mauzadárs came out fairly well.

In Lakhimpur measurements of complete tracts were tested by the Sub-Deputy-Collectors and Government surveyor, and 429 acres of concealed cultivation were discovered. The Director of Land Records and Agriculture, however, reports that he has reason to distrust the survey made by the Sub-Deputy-Collector.

SECTION III.—Miscellaneous Land Revenue.

Current demand of miscellaneous land revenue.

32. The following table shows the current demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue for the past two years:—

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	1887-88.	1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of Increase.	Percentage of Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Elephants—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
(*a*) License-fees	18,612	16,097	.....	2,515	.....	13·51
(*b*) Royalty	24,800	22,450	.....	2,350	.....	9·48
Total Elephants	43,412	38,547	.....	4,865	.....	11·21
2. Fisheries	1,12,373	1,10,115	.....	2,258	.....	2·01
3. Poll-tax	11,958	12,832	874	.....	7·31	.....
4. House-tax	1,11,402	1,16,440	5,038	.....	4·52	.....
5. Lime-quarries	15,206	13,484	.....	1,722	.....	11·32
6. Stone-quarries	177	80	.....	97	.....	54·80
7. Coal-mines and mineral oil	18,815	21,260	2,445	.....	12·99	.....
8. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	25,188	4,987	.....	20,201	.....	80·20
9. Survey-fees	5,404	6,531	1,127	.....	20·85	.....
10. Mutation and registration-fees	4,414	3,267	.....	1,147	.....	25·98
11. Fees on separate accounts	149	317	168	.....	112·95	.....
12. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	6,923	7,810	887	.....	12·81	.....
Grand Total	3,55,421	3,35,670	10,539	30,290	.....	.....
Net decrease			19,751		5·56	

33. The year 1888-89 shows a falling off of Rs. 19,751, or 5·56 per cent., in the demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue. The bulk of the increase, which occurred under the head "Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue," in 1887-88 was exceptional. In 1887-88 a large sum of money (Rs. 13,175) was paid in the district of Cachar on account of certain redeemed Old Rule grants, while during the year under report a manager in that district obtained five years' grace for the payment of the commutation money of his grant. The Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts has not given any explanation of the falling off of Rs. 5,115 under this head in his division, but the receipts from this source must always fluctuate according as new leases are settled or grants under the Assam Rules of 1854 are redeemed. The causes of the variations under other heads are given below :—

Explanation of increase and decrease.

Elephants, decrease Rs. 4,865.—No revenue was derived from this source in the districts of Sylhet, Cachar, and the Gáro Hills, the elephant *mahúls* in these districts having been reserved for the Government khedda. In Goálpára the *mahúls* were allowed periodical rest. In the other districts of the Assam Valley there was a decrease of Rs. 650, for which the districts of Nowgong and Sibságar are mainly responsible. In the former district no elephants were caught in the single *mahál* leased during the year, and in the latter three *mahúls*, which were leased in 1887-88, were allowed rest during the year under report. In the Nága and the Khási and Jaintia Hills there was a decrease of Rs. 800 and Rs. 1,385 respectively, owing chiefly to smaller captures.

The large decrease in revenue which occurred in 1887-88 was due to the change of system, by which about half the *mahúls* in each district of the Assam Valley (except Darrang, where depredations by elephants were complained of, and all the *mahúls* were allowed to be leased) are leased annually, the other half being allowed rest. As 1888-89 was in most districts the second year of the leases in force, the revenue did not differ much from that obtained in 1887-88.

Fisheries, decrease Rs. 2,258.—There was an increase of Rs. 738 in the Assam Valley districts. In July 1887 the dates for the payment of the fishery revenue were altered with effect from the 1st April 1888, and it was believed that the revised dates of instalments would tend to enhance the fishery revenue ; but the results have not been as good as was expected. In Cachar the revenue remained stationary, while in Sylhet there was a falling off of Rs. 1,495, owing to lack of competition in consequence of the High Court rulings referred to in last year's report. The Deputy-Commissioner reports that the falling off would have been very marked but for the knowledge that legislation on the subject was soon to be expected. In the Gáro Hills there was an increase of Rs. 120, and in the Nága and the Khási and Jaintia Hills districts a decrease of Rs. 65 and Rs 1,556 respectively, owing mainly to the lessees having suffered loss in 1887-88.

Poll-tax, increase Rs. 874.—Of this increase, the district of Lakhimpur contributed a sum of Rs. 138, but the bulk of the increase occurred in Sylhet, owing to revision of the assessment of certain punjis.

House-tax, increase Rs. 5,038.—The revenue increased under this head in all the three hill districts, the Nága Hills contributing the largest increase, Rs. 4,390, the Khási and Jaintia Hills Rs. 148, and the Gáro Hills Rs. 658. In the Nága Hills the increase was due to the formation of the new Ao sub-division, to a substantial addition to the number of tax-paying houses in the sadr and Wokha sub-divisions, and to immigration from Nowgong and Cachar. The increase in the Khási and Jaintia Hills is attributed to the splitting up of joint families, and in the Gáro Hills to this cause and to more careful and regular counting and testing of houses. There was a decrease of Rs. 124 in Cachar, which is attributed to the tendency of the hillmen to settle on tea-garden land, where they escape the liability to pay house-tax and to give labour to Government. In the Assam Valley, Kámrúp shows a decrease of Rs. 62, which is due to deaths and desertions, and Nowgong an increase of Rs. 36, owing to certain Mikirs having migrated from mauzas where they were assessed to land revenue to mauzas where they were assessed on houses, and to separation of families.

Lime-quarries, decrease Rs. 1,722.—Revenue is raised from lime-quarries only in the Khási and Jaintia Hills district. The decrease was owing to the fact that the seven quarries, of which the term of lease expired during the year under report, were withdrawn from settlement, as the bids offered at the time of sale were too insignificant to warrant a re-settlement. The revenue from quarries worked under the permit system, however, rose from Rs. 4,928 in 1887-88 to Rs. 6,800 in 1888-89. The alleged decline in the lime trade of Sylhet is at present the subject of enquiry by the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture.

Coal-mines, increase Rs. 2,445.—The revenue derived from the Makum coal-mines in Lakhimpur continues to increase with the increased outturn of coal.

Survey-fees, increase Rs. 1,127.—There was an increase of Rs. 334 under this head in Cachar, of which the Deputy-Commissioner gives no explanation. In the Assam Valley all districts, except Darrang, show an increase. In Lakhimpur the increase amounted to Rs. 791, which was due mainly to the recovery of the outstanding balances of survey-fees on account of Messrs. Kinney and Anderson's survey.

Miscellaneous.—There is a decrease of Rs. 189 under this head, as compared with an increase of Rs. 4,624 in the previous year. In Sylhet there was a falling off in mutation and registration-fees, owing mainly to non-enforcement of the penal provisions of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation. In the Assam Valley districts only Nowgong and Lakhimpur show an increase under this head. The other districts show a decrease. In Goálpára the decrease is attributed to the absence of any applications from the owners of *lákhiráj* estates during the year under report, while there were such cases in 1887-88. The Deputy-Commissioner, Kámrúp, attributes the decrease (Rs. 59) to ordinary fluctuations. In Darrang it is said that there was a less number of transfers during the year, while in Sibságar the Deputy-Commissioner reports that there was a falling off in the number of cases instituted. In no district is it probable that the provisions of Chapter IV. of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, and the Rules made thereunder, have been fully complied with. There must have been many more cases where applications should have been made under Section 50 than those where applications were actually made, and the enforcement of the penalty fixed by Section 58 would probably lead to a large increase in applications and fees.

Arrear demand.

34. The arrear demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue on 1st April 1888 was Rs. 12,621, but additions and reductions since made have brought the figures to Rs. 13,105, as shown below:—

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1888.	Changes made in arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1888.		Arrear demand on 1st April 1888 as corrected by further enquiries after 1st April 1888.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
License-fees for catching elephants.	362	.....	.....	362
Royalty on elephants	1,200	100	.....	1,300
Fisheries	7,443	228	43	7,628
Poll-tax	116	126	.....	242
House-tax	3,300	36	.....	3,336
Lime-quarries	200	.....	.....	200
Coal-mines and mineral oil	.....	37	.....	37
Total	12,621	527	43	13,105

Total demand, collections, and balances.

35. The total demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue, including arrears, was Rs. 3,48,775, of which Rs. 3,29,139, or 94·37 per cent., was collected, Rs. 1,664, or ·48 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 17,972, or 5·15 per cent., remained as an arrear balance at the close of the year. Details for the different districts are given below:—

District.	Demand.	Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.	Percentage of		
					Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Cachar	18,646	16,493	.....	2,153	88·45	...	11·55
Sylhet	47,017	35,615	1,260	10,142	75·75	2·68	21·57
Goálpára	770	770	.....	.....	100·00	...	...
Kámrúp	26,171	26,171	.....	.....	100·00	...	...
Darrang	15,611	15,411	.....	200	98·72	...	1·28
Nowgong	26,075	26,075	.....	.....	100·00	...	...
Sibságar	31,843	30,862	200	781	96·92	·63	2·45
Lakhimpur	52,231	52,231	.....	.....	100 00	...	...
Nága Hills	41,491	37,452	.....	4,039	90·27	...	9·73
Khási and Jaintia Hills	50,157	49,305	204	648	98·30	·41	1·29
Gáro Hills	38,763	38,754	.....	9	99·98	...	·02
Total	3,48,775	3,29,139	1,664	17,972	94·37	·48	5·15

In the districts of Goálpára, Kámrúp, Nowgong, and Lakhimpur there was no outstanding balance. The arrears were heavy in Sylhet, Cachar, and the Nága Hills. The following abstract shows the heads under which the balances occurred:—

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
License-fees for catching elephants	30	.....	30
Royalty on elephants	357	600	957
Fisheries	10,498	1,825	12,323
Poll-tax	433	95	528
House-tax	3,732	7	3,739
Lime-quarries	395	.....	395
Total	15,445	2,527	17,972

Out of this balance, Rs. 7,655 have been paid in since the close of the year. Rs. 1,311 remitted, and Rs. 9,006, due mostly from the districts of Sylhet and the Nága Hills, are in course of realisation.

Remissions.

36. The total sum remitted during the year under report was Rs. 1,664. Of this, Rs. 1,260 (*viz.*, Rs. 1,210 under fisheries and Rs. 50 under poll-tax), or 75·72 per cent., represent remissions allowed in Sylhet, owing to the debtors having no property. In the district of Sibságar Rs. 200 were remitted to the lessee of a fishery-*mahál* on the ground that a bamboo scaffolding put up in the Darika river by the Public Works Department, in order to facilitate the construction of a timber bridge across the river, prevented fish from passing into the fishery.

SECTION IV.—Processes for the Recovery of Arrears of Revenue.

Laws under which arrears of revenue are realised.

37. No change was made in the laws for the recovery of arrears of revenue during the year, but, in order to comply with the requirements of Section 72 (2) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886, the Chief Commissioner, pending the receipt of the orders of the Government of India regarding the amendment of the law, directed the Deputy-Commissioner of Sylhet to serve the sale proclamation on the person who paid the largest quota of revenue on account of the estate concerned at the last preceding *kist*. The law has since been amended by Regulation II. of 1889, which was sanctioned by the Government of India after the close of the year.

Working of the sale law in Sylhet.

38. Details of the working of the sale law in the district of Sylhet during the past three years are given in the table below :—

	Permanently-settled estates.			Temporarily-settled estates. Jaintia estates.			Temporarily-settled estates. Others.		
	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Number of estates in arrear.	12,629	13,288	16,507	5,755	31,019	16,993	1,501	1,624	570
Revenue assessment (Rs.) ..	4,17,297	3,32,894	3,53,533	55,450	1,41,272	1,21,426	71,861	47,872	11,999
Amount of arrears (Rs.) ...	1,49,328	1,60,273	2,29,388	49,082	1,26,011	98,547	38,783	38,188	9,917
Number of estates in which arrears were paid before sale	12,439	12,718	15,973	5,525	29,255	16,053	374	620	475
Number of estates exempted from sale.....	103	346	366	204	1,459	791	1,123	998	80
Number of estates sold	87	224	168	26	305	149	4	6	15
Revenue assessment (Rs.) ..	2,415	3,186	2,119	287	1,328	617	122	24	493
Arrears for which sold (Rs.)	1,210	2,419	1,613	246	1,361	671	98	44	645
Price fetched (Rs.)	45,085	77,744	32,226	1,146	6,338	3,743	1,081	18	1,124
Number of estates purchased by Government for want of bids	4	14	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Number of estates restored to former owners	2	8	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that, while the number of permanently settled estates which fell into arrears slightly increased during the year, the number actually sold was considerably smaller than in 1887-88. In the case of temporarily-settled estates there was a decrease both in the number of estates in arrears and in the number sold. The total number of sales decreased by 203. This result was partly due to the rigorous measures of the preceding year, partly to the people being somewhat better able to pay this year, and, in Jaintia, largely to the fact that process-fees and petition stamps were remitted.

The average price obtained from the sale of permanently-settled estates has fallen from Rs. 347 in 1887-88 to Rs. 192, or from 24 to 15 years' purchase of the revenue. The large proportion of sales cancelled on application to the Chief Commissioner chiefly on account of the difficulty in proving satisfactory legal service of sale notices under the Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886 probably rendered competition less brisk.

The difference in the price fetched by Jaintia estates on the average was very small, being six against five years' purchase. Other temporarily-settled estates which come to the hammer are generally of no real value, and, as usual, sold for about 2½ years' purchase only of their revenue.

Besides the revenue-paying estates mentioned above, 246 revenue-free tenures fell into arrear on account of local rates, amounting to Rs. 1,596. In 195 cases the arrears were paid up before sale, 33 estates were exempted from sale, and the remaining 18 were sold for an arrear of Rs. 44 at an aggregate price of Rs. 1,346. The total amount of local rate payable by these 18 estates was Rs. 58 a year. In all, 24 estates, which attracted no bids, were purchased by Government.

Result of applications for the annulment of sales.

39. One hundred and four applications for annulment of sale were presented to the Chief Commissioner, against 47 in the previous year. The increase in the number of applications is due to the success of previous applications and to a more extended knowledge amongst revenue agents and others of the difficulty of proving satisfactory legal service of sale notices under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation as unamended. Twenty-two sales were confirmed, while 72 were cancelled, mostly on account of irregularities in the service of notice. The remaining 10 cases were pending at the close of the year. Besides the 72 cases mentioned above, 3 sales were cancelled without application on the recommendation of the Deputy-Commissioner, the estates having been brought to sale through mistakes on the part of the muharrirs in crediting revenue paid.

Process issued under Sections 68 and 69 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation against temporarily-settled estates in Sylhet.

40. In the case of 19,529 temporarily-settled estates notices of demand under Section 68 of the Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886, issued for the realisation of Rs. 1,27,735. Arrears amounting to Rs. 1,316, due from 164 estates, were realised by the sale of the estates under Section 70 of the Regulation, as noticed above. Rs. 91,249, due from

17,232 estates, were paid in before any coercive measures under Section 69 or 70 were taken. The sum of Rs. 10,815, due from 537 estates, was realised on the issue of attachment orders, and Rs. 586, due from 38 estates, by the sale of the defaulters' moveable property. The balance of Rs. 23,739, due from 1,558 estates, had not been recovered at the close of the year.

Separate accounts.

41. Four hundred and ninety-one separate accounts were opened under Section 65 of the Land and Revenue Regulation during the year, against 383 in 1887-88. The number of applications filed was 791, which, with 265 pending for disposal on the 1st April 1888, made a total of 1,056 cases. Of these applications 491 were granted, 47 rejected, and 518 remained pending at the end of the year. Thirteen tenures, containing an area of 3,759 acres, were registered under Section 55 of the Regulation during the year, and only one application remained pending at its close.

Recovery of arrears of land revenue in Cachar.

42. The following statement shows how the land revenue was realised in Cachar during the past two years :—

	1887-88.	1888-89.
Total demand of land revenue	Rs. 3,77,855	Rs. 4,16,814
Collected without issue of process	„ 2,37,386	„ 2,80,219
Number of defaulters on whom notice issued.....	6,040	8,276
Amount of revenue for which notice issued.....	„ 84,569	„ 98,228
„ realised on issue of notice	„ 28,879	„ 30,689
Number of defaulters whose property was attached.....	4,134	6,803
Amount of arrears for which property had to be attached	„ 38,808	„ 79,310
„ realised by attachment	„ 27,529	„ 72,557
Number of defaulters whose property had to be sold.....	272	50
Amount of arrear for which ditto ditto	„ 3,245	„ 495
„ realised by sale of moveable property	„ 118	„ 492
Number of estates in default advertised for sale	3	40
Amount of arrears for which estates had to be sold.....	„ 876	„ 2,157
„ realised without sale of estate.....	.....	„ 650
„ „ by sale of estates	....	„ 186
Number of revenue-payers	146,432	146,781
Percentage of process to the total number of revenue-payers.	7·14	10·33

It will be seen that out of a total demand of Rs. 4,16,814, an amount of Rs. 2,80,219, or rather more than half, was realised without recourse to any coercive process. Simple notice of demand had very little effect, out of Rs. 98,228 for which notice issued, only Rs. 30,689, or less than one-third, being realised without attachment of property. It was only when actual attachment took place that the defaulters paid in their dues. Of the 40 estates advertised for sale, only 3 were actually sold, 19 were declared *khás*, there having been no bid, and the arrears in respect of 18 were paid up before sale. The Deputy-Commissioner gives the following explanation in connection with the estates put up for sale :—

"The recent floods have rendered the people hopeless of realizing from certain low-lying lands, mainly in the west of the district, and the owners to get rid of them sell their title to men of straw. The sale is a nominal one, the fact being, I believe, some consideration is paid to the purchaser in a good many cases for taking the land off their hands by the sellers. Sometimes the purchaser at once defaults in payment of revenue, at other times he pays an instalment of revenue, and tries whether he cannot do something with the land, which, needless to say, he fails to do. Of course, when he defaults and coercive measures are adopted, no moveable property can be found, and then the estate is put up to sale, no one bids, and the settlement is cancelled."

Working of the sale law in Goálpára.

43. The zemindárs of the permanently-settled estates in Goálpára paid in their revenue punctually as usual. No steps had to be taken under the Land and Revenue Regulation for its recovery.

Working of the *bakijai* system in the Assam Valley districts

44. The table on the next page shows the working of the *bakijai* system in each sub-division of the Assam Valley districts during the past two years.

Sub-division.	Number of revenue-paying estates in the sub-division.		Number of estates on the owners of which notices of demand issued.		Amount of revenue in arrears for which notice of demand issued.		Amount of revenue paid after issue of notice of demand.		Number of cases in which property had to be attached.		Amount of arrears for which property was attached.		Number of cases in which notice of sale had to be issued.		Amount of arrears for which sale notice was issued.		Number of cases in which property had to be sold.		Amount of arrears for which property was sold.		Percentage of *bakijai* process to the total number of revenue-paying estates.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.		
Dhubri	14,480	13,552	65	125	903	879	138	331	2	13	19	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·44	0·92
Barpeta	39,286	38,203	516	738	5,535	7,282	2,705	2,869	50	124	1,755	2,898	...	7	...	1,218	...	4	...	13	0·80	1·93
Gauháti	121,869	124,246	1,189	1,284	29,103	33,105	22,214	26,176	186	224	4,380	7,580	24	46	378	1,239	4	9	36	191	1·34	1·03
Total Kámrúp	161,155	162,449	1,705	2,022	34,638	40,387	24,919	29,045	236	348	6,135	10,478	24	53	378	2,457	4	13	36	204	1·29	1·24
Mangaldai	55,945	61,870	2,503	1,641	14,980	9,429	7,240	5,189	395	282	2,141	2,442	7	10	58	203	4	7	18	52	4·47	2·65
Tezpur	35,628	36,889	2,514	2,812	20,215	19,855	16,559	14,392	201	458	896	2,589	201	190	896	792	6	17	28	67	7·05	7·62
Total Darrang	91,573	98,759	5,017	4,453	35,195	29,284	23,799	19,581	596	740	3,037	5,031	208	200	954	995	10	24	46	119	5·47	4·50
Nowgong	117,836	118,448	3,239	5,342	24,503	23,116	10,174	5,769	1,031	1,426	7,471	6,332	384	474	1,592	2,199	66	59	535	288	2·74	4·50
Golághát	31,748	33,358	548	1,108	4,909	8,989	3,286	7,565	112	135	1,138	1,423	2	5	13	47	1	...	5	...	1·72	3·32
Jorhát	42,201	44,165	1,382	1,634	10,874	15,737	1,078	4,612	93	315	1,174	3,600	17	18	453	319	...	2	...	43	3·27	3·69
Sibságar	35,312	39,851	1,684	4,504	13,503	30,541	5,485	13,854	375	1,420	5,293	10,615	375	85	5,293	722	10	72	539	582	4·76	11·30
Total Sibságar	109,261	117,374	3,614	7,246	29,286	55,267	9,849	26,031	580	1,870	7,605	15,638	394	108	5,759	1,088	11	74	544	625	3·30	6·17
North Lakhimpur	20,150	20,759	1,331	1,120	8,475	7,203	2,083	2,807	157	311	1,394	1,883	17	25	80	215	10	21	54	155	6·61	6·35
Dibrugarh	25,104	27,356	1,234	861	12,498	8,887	5,073	2,074	167	40	2,558	595	5	8	214	94	5	...	214	...	4·91	3·14
Total Lakhimpur	45,254	48,115	2,565	2,181	20,973	16,090	7,156	4,881	324	351	3,952	2,478	22	33	294	309	15	21	268	155	5·66	4·53
Grand Total	539,559	558,697	16,205	21,369	1,45,498	1,65,023	76,035	85,638	2,769	4,748	28,219	40,014	1,032	868	8,977	7,048	106	191	1,429	1,391	3·03	3·82

During the year under report the number of notices of demand in the Assam Valley division has much increased, as compared with the figures of the previous five years, as will be manifest from the following table:—

	No.
1883-84	11,916
1884-85	12,184
1885-86	16,510
1886-87	18,467
1887-88	16,205
1888-89	21,369

This increase is due, to some extent, to the issue of a smaller number of processes in 1887-88 for the arrears of that year; a considerable number (8,282) were issued during 1888-89 for arrears of 1887-88. The sub-divisions of Gauháti, Mangaldai, North Lakhimpur, and Dibrugarh show a decrease in the number of notices issued, but all other sub-divisions show an increase. The sub-divisional officer of Mangaldai explains the decrease in his sub-division as follows:—

"In the southern tahsil there has been a very decided decrease in the number of notices issued. This is mainly due to the tahsildár having acquired a knowledge of the circumstances of his ryots, thereby avoiding the unnecessary issue of *bakijais*, and partly to the example set by the tahsildár of the Kalaigaon tahsil, who issued no *bakijais* at all."

In the Tezpur sub-division the increase is attributed to failure of the late rice and other crops. With regard to the large number of notices of demand issued annually in Nowgong as compared with Lower Assam, the Deputy-Commissioner, Mr. McLeod, writes:—

"The cause of such extensive compulsion and large sales being necessary in this district is easily explained. As the whole of the trans-Kalang part of this district is *chapari*, the people raise only two principal crops there, *viz.*, *áhu dhán* and mustard. The former is grown for home consumption and the latter for sale. There being very few rivers in the mustard-growing part of the district navigable for boats before the rains, the ryots cannot sell their mustard before June and July; and consequently they can hardly pay their revenue by the required time. The mauzadárs are therefore obliged to have recourse to coercive measures for realization. Most of the *bakijais* issued in this district are for arrears in the *chapari* mauzas."

In the year under review, though the number of notices has largely increased, the sum in arrear is less, and the number of cases in which the process of sale was resorted to is smaller.

In Upper Assam, the Sibságar district, and notably the sadr sub-division, exhibits a remarkable increase of compulsion. Mr. Knox Wight attributes it to the fact that instructions were issued by him to have processes ready beforehand, in order that they might issue at once on failure to pay up instalments. Every effort, he says, was made to realise the revenue before the 31st March, and the mauzadárs on their part were more energetic in getting their dues from the ryots.

In Dibrugarh, there has been a falling off in the number of processes as compared with last year. Mr. Driberg explains this as follows:—

"The year 1887-88 was the first year that we had no balance; the mauzadárs were pressed and repeatedly warned; and they exerted themselves and took out *bakijai* processes against defaulting ryots, and so the number of processes was greater than in the other districts and sub-divisions of the valley districts, except in Tezpur. Our percentage of notices in 1887-88 was in Dibrugarh nearly the same as in Sibságar and Mangaldai, but below Tezpur. North Lakhimpur, on the other hand, exceeded Dibrugarh, and nearly equalled Tezpur. Bearing in mind that the two sub-divisions of this district up to 1886-87 were large defaulting sub-divisions, it is natural that, to remove them from this category, an unusual number of processes was necessary; but the actual sales were few. The number of notices fell off again in 1888-89, as the mauzadárs, recollecting the pressure of the previous year, were more active, and the ryots, for the same reason, more prompt in paying."

The number of notices of sale fell from 1,032 to 868; while the number of sales rose from 106 to 191, though the arrears for which sale took place were less. There is a marked increase in the number of sales in the sadr sub-division of Sibságar, 72 against 10 in the previous year, although the number of sale notices issued decreased by 290. Mr. Knox Wight has given no explanation of the increase. There were no sales in Dhubri, Golághát, and Dibrugarh.

The notices of the first quarter are all for arrears of the previous year. The large increase in the number of the notices issued in the first quarter as compared with the number issued in the corresponding quarter of 1887-88, shows that the decrease in 1887-88 was due to the issue of a considerable number being delayed till the commencement of the year under report, a natural result of the late date fixed for payment of the second instalment of revenue.

In paragraph 41 of last year's report, the Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts, was directed to notice the working of the *Bakijai* Rules in his next report. The subject is referred to in paragraphs 54 and 85 of the Land Revenue Administration Report of the Assam Valley Districts. Several district officers have made representations as to the insufficiency of the mauzadár's means of recovering revenue by the time he is himself obliged to pay it in, and as to his being compelled to borrow owing to the late date fixed for payment by the ryot. The whole subject of the *bakijai* procedure, as connected with the dates fixed for payment of land revenue, is under consideration.

Sales of estates under Section 70 of Land and Revenue Regulation, and annulments of settlement under Section 90.

45. But, besides the *bakijai* system, which is essentially the mauzadár's remedy against the ryot, though it is used also by tahsildárs who have no personal responsibility, the passing of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation for the first time introduced into Assam Proper the process of sale of defaulting estates (Section 70) in cases where attachment of moveable property is insufficient to recover arrears, and also that of annulment of settlement under Section 90.

Both processes have been hitherto very sparingly used. Last year's report contains no mention of them. In 1888-89, the following cases of sale occurred :—

Goálpára	*Nil.*
Kámrúp	13
Darrang	1
Nowgong	43
Sibságar	8
Lakhimpur	*Nil.*
Total	65

Of the 13 estates sold in Kámrúp one was a thirty-year lease. The Deputy-Commissioner has not stated the nature of the other tenures, or the amount which they fetched on sale. The amount of arrears for which they were sold was Rs. 2,787-6-6. It is stated that in all the cases the process provided by Section 69 of the Regulation proved insufficient to effect the recovery of the arrear.

The one sale in Darrang was of a ten-year lease, covering 1*b.* 4*k.* 18¾*l.*, for an arrear of Re. 1-4-0, and one anna local rate. It fetched Rs. 5-8-0 at auction. The defaulter had no moveable property.

In Nowgong, the 43 estates were sold for arrears amounting to Rs. 295-4-9, being sums varying from 13 annas to Rs. 29-11-0. The total quantity of land sold was 498 *bighas*, of which 40 *bighas* were *basti*, 379 *rupit*, and 79 *faringati*. The amount fetched at sale was Rs. 556-13. The Deputy-Commissioner states that, before attachment of the immoveable property, every effort was made to recover arrears by attachment of the defaulter's moveable property, and that no valuable land has been sold. In almost every case the lands sold were situated at a distance from thickly-populated parts, and had in consequence a low market value.

In Sibságar five defaulting estates were sold in the sadr sub-division, two in Jorhát, and one in Golághát. Of the five in the sadr sub-division, four were decennial leases, comprising 21·15 acres, which were sold for arrears amounting to Rs. 31. One was an annual lease, covering 1·45 acres, in arrears for Rs. 3. The latter should not have been sold under Section 70, as it was not "an estate in which the settlement-holder has a permanent, heritable, and transferable right of use and occupancy" (Section 70 of the Regulation). The five estates fetched Rs. 58. The two sold in Jorhát were decennial leases, covering 9·91 acres, in arrear for Rs. 43. They fetched Rs. 136. The estate sold at Golághát was a thirty-year lease, covering 52·30 acres, in arrear for Rs. 28, which fetched Rs. 35.

The Deputy-Commissioners have not noticed in their reports the cases of annulment of settlement which occurred during the year. Section 90, proviso (*a*), of the Regulation requires the sanction of the Chief Commissioner to all such cancelments, which involve abandonment of the claim for arrears. The Commissioner has reported only two cases in which orders of cancelment were issued by the Chief Commissioner during the year, one in Sibságar (Jorhát) and the other in Nowgong. Besides these, in one case of a waste land grant under the Thirty-year Lease Rules in Dibrugarh the settlement was cancelled and the land re-settled with two applicants on special terms, including the payment of the arrears.

The Commissioner reports that decennial leases are sometimes cancelled, contrary to law, on the mauzadár's report of deaths and desertions (*faut ferári* list) without reference to the Chief Commissioner. This matter is being enquired into.

SECTION V.—SETTLEMENTS.

Settlements in progress.

46. This section deals only with the settlements made during the year in the districts of Sylhet and Cachar, and with special settlements in the Assam Valley districts. Ordinary settlements in the districts of the Assam Valley are treated of in Section II., and settlements of waste land grants in Section VII. of this report.

Settlements in Sylhet.

47. Settlement work in Sylhet consists in the re-settlement of *ilám* and other petty estates settled under the *Ilám* Rules, and the settlement of *khás* land in pargana Pratabgarh and of waste lands brought under cultivation in Jaintia. The following statement exhibits the settlement work done during the past two years, exclusive of settlements of *khás* lands in Pratabgarh:—

	Jaintia.		*Ilám.*		Other estates.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Applications pending when year began.	.....	.....	13	19	32	27
Ditto made during the year	155	157	16	116	13	22
Number of estates settled	155	157	10	116	18	17
Area in acres	1,720	3,179	1,940	10,536	38	1,054
Revenue assessed	427	655	538	1,018	30	507
Former assessment	.....	.....	19	94	8	88
Number of estates transferred to *khás* tahsil.	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	15
Applications pending when year closed.	.....	.....	19	4	27	17

Khás lands in Jaintia were settled either with the actual occupants or with persons applying for settlement. Of the *ilám* estates, 112 were settled with the former holders and 4 with outsiders; and of other miscellaneous estates, now classed with *ilám*, 6 were settled with the former holders and 11 with outsiders.

Besides the above, 474 *jotdári* holdings comprising an area of 1,322 acres were settled in Pratabgarh at an annual revenue of Rs. 2,102.

The current settlement of Jaintia estates expires on the 31st March 1897, and that of *ilám* estates on various dates between the years 1890 and 1897. The latter class of estates have been arranged by parganas, so that all the *ilám* leases in one pargana will fall in together. The settlement of the 17 miscellaneous estates will expire in 1907. The term of the Pratabgarh settlement has been extended for a further period of one year from 1st April 1889, pending the settlement of certain disputes concerning the rights of Government in a large portion of the land situated in that pargana. The postponement of the resettlement has been approved by the Government of India, in letter No. 222,R.—3-15, dated 6th May 1889.

Adding the 295 estates which came under settlement during the year to the 46 pending at the close of 1887-88, there were 341 cases for disposal, in 290 of which settlement was made, 30 were transferred to *khás* tahsil and 21 estates remained pending at the close of the year; 586 estates, comprising an area of 3,338 acres as noted on the margin, were measured, and the measurements of these estates tested during the year.

	Number of estates.	Area.
Pratabgarh	474	1,322
Ilám and others	112	2,016
Total..	586	3,338

Besides the above, an area of 1,219 acres of concealed cultivation of *khás* land in Jaintia was discovered. The area measured in 1888-89 has been assessed at an annual revenue of Rs. 1,630 as compared with Rs. 1,342 assessed on 972 acres measured in 1887-88, showing a net increase of Rs. 288.

In letter No. 145, dated 11th January 1889, to the Deputy-Commissioner of Sylhet, the Chief Commissioner decided that extensive tracts of low-lying waste lands, which yield little revenue and are settled with a view to preserve the right of Government and to prevent encroachment by the holders of adjacent permanently-settled tracts, should be farmed out instead of being settled under the *ilám* lease, the object being to prevent the creation of middlemen in such large areas. Farming leases will in future be granted for short periods, not exceeding in any case ten years, so that the lessee may not, as under the *ilám* lease, acquire any permanent, heritable, and transferable interest in the land.

Settlement of waste land in Cachar.

48. The number of applications for settlement of waste land during the year was 248, against 249 in the preceding year, and there were 168 applications pending at the beginning of the year. There were thus 416 applications for disposal, against 587 in the previous year. Of these, 16 were for tea and the rest for ordinary cultivation, 308 cases were disposed of and there remained 108 cases pending at the close of the year. Of the cases disposed of, eight covering an area of

861 acres and bearing a maximum revenue of Rs. 1,014, were for land required for tea. Those for ordinary cultivation covered an area of 3,994 acres, bearing a revenue of Rs. 2,532. The pending cases involve an estimated area of 4,402 acres, of which 1,298 acres were for tea, and the remainder for ordinary cultivation.

The settlement of the *khás* bázár lands in Silchar station was made during the year for a period of five years, at an annual revenue of Rs. 1,449. The former assessment was Rs. 611 only. This revenue will, under orders of the Government of India, be credited to land revenue, instead of being paid, as heretofore, to the Silchar Station Committee.

The cadastral survey.

49. In the year under report the cadastral survey party was engaged during the recess in the calculation of the areas of the tract in Nowgong surveyed in 1887-88, and during the cold season in the traverse survey of a part of Sibságar, the cadastral survey of another part of the same district, and the revision survey of a part of Nowgong. The actual areas done were:—

Revision survey in Nowgong	...	...	...	586·59	square miles.
Cadastral survey in Sibságar	...	...	...	650	„ „
Traverse survey ditto	...	...	...	529·35	„ „

The case work in Nowgong proved exceptionally heavy, there having been no less than 7,883 cases, as against 3,221 in Mangaldai in the previous year.

The great majority of the petitions on which these cases were founded, proved on examination to be groundless, but the labour involved in examining into the allegations was very great and severely taxed the resources of the staff entrusted with the duty.

The adjustment of the boundaries of the grants and *nisf-khiráj* and *lá-khiráj* estates proved a far more complicated and troublesome business than had at first been anticipated, and, even though a special Sub-Deputy-Collector was retained in Nowgong for the express purpose of dealing with these estates and rapidly settling difficulties on the spot, the work could not be completed by the close of the financial year. But as the 25 *nisf-khiráj* estates all came under settlement in 1889, particular attention was paid to them, and in May of the current year all the settlement reports were forwarded by the Assistant Settlement Officer to the Deputy-Commissioner.

In Sibságar cadastral survey was carried on in parts of the Golághát and Jorhát sub-divisions, and an area of 650 square miles surveyed. The work was distinguished by a larger employment than usual of local men, there being no fewer than 42 mandals from Nowgong, 47 mandals from Sibságar, and 23 local candidates employed as amíns. Each mandal received, besides his ordinary pay, Rs. 2 per 100 acres of passed survey, and each local candidate from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per 100 acres. The largest area done by a mandal was 2,214 acres and the smallest 833 acres. The largest area done by a local candidate was 2,540 acres and the smallest 1,224 acres. The Deputy-Superintendent of Survey expressed himself well satisfied with the quality and amount of the work done by local agency. The Deputy-Superintendent of Survey Operations in charge of the Revenue Branch, Survey of India, reports as follows:—"The quality of the work obtained from local men, especially from those who worked in Nowgong, is particularly good, being in no way inferior to that done by the Hindustani amíns." Great difficulty was experienced in Sibságar, owing to—

(*a*) the smallness of the fields;

(*b*) the ravine-like character of much of the country near Golághát. Exact figures are as yet unattainable showing the average size of each field, but the total number per square mile has increased by about 50 per cent. The ravine-like character of the ground in many places delayed the work seriously, as the trouble of plotting details was very considerably increased, owing not only to the great number of the details themselves, but also to the sinuous nature of the boundaries.

The traverse party had 386·25 square miles ready by the beginning of November from the previous season. During the cold weather an area of 529·35 square miles was done, so that the cadastral work gained on the traverse work by 120·45 square miles. Exact figures as to the results of survey in Nowgong and as to the expenditure incurred during the survey year are not yet obtainable.

SECTION VI.—Wards' and Attached Estates.

50. There were no wards' or attached estates under the management of the revenue authorities in this Province during the year under report.

SECTION VII.—Waste Lands.

Rules under which lands are taken up for special cultivation.

51. This section deals only with waste lands taken up for special cultivation, whether under the special rules now applicable to the cultivation of tea, coffee, cinchona, and timber-trees (formerly known as the Thirty-year Lease Rules of 1876, and now embodied as Section I. in the Settlement Rules under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation issued in October 1887), and the rules for grants previously in force, or under the ordinary district tenure.

Disposal of applications for waste land under the Lease Rules of 1876.

52. There were 65 applications under the special Waste Land Rules for disposal during the year under report. Of these, 30 were left pending at the close of 1887-88 and 35 were instituted during the year. They were disposed of in the manner indicated in the statement below :—

	1887-88.		1888-89.	
	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.
Rejected, withdrawn, and struck off	10	1,500	10	2,463
Settled	10	3,805	17	2,302
Advertised, but not sold	6	1,188	6	603
Pending	30	6,633	32	8,051
Total	56	13,126	65	13,419

At the close of the year, 32 cases were left pending, 10 in Sylhet and 22 in the Assam Valley districts.

Of the 10 cases in Sylhet, 2 have since been sent up for advertisement, and 2 have been struck off, 2 are ready for disposal, and in the remaining 4 cases the survey is in progress.

Besides the above, there were four applications under these rules in the district of Cachar, of which three were struck off and the fourth was converted into an application under the *Jangalburi* Rules.

Leases settled under the Rules of 1876.

53. In the following statement particulars are given as to the waste land grants settled in accordance with the new rules under the Land and Revenue Regulation, and in accordance with the Lease Rules of 1876, during the past two years. It also shows the number and area of grants settled under these rules as they stood at the end of 1888-89:—

District.	1887-88.		1888-89.		Altogether to the end of 1888-89, excluding leases resumed and cancelled.	
	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.	No.	Area in acres.
Cachar	...	.....	...	.....	1	69
Sylhet	2	2,619	2	471	102	68,412
Goálpára	...	.....	...	.....	1	360
Kámrúp	...	.....	...	.....	25	5,400
Darrang	4	795	5	893	133	40,196
Nowgong	...	.....	...	.....	96	34,955
Sibságar	2	104	7	679	143	47,223
Lakhimpur	2	287	3	259	95	34,686
Khási and Jaintia Hills .	...	.....	...	.....	1	80
Total	10	3,805	17	2,302	597	231,381

There was an increase of 7 in number and a decrease of 1,503 acres in area as compared with the figures for the preceding year. The decrease occurred almost entirely in the district of Sylhet, and is attributed to the present unfavourable prospects of tea, and to the fact that most of the good and accessible *bil* lands have been taken up. The area held under these rules at the end of 1888-89, 231,381 acres, is not the total area settled in the past 13 years, because many grants have been resigned, and many adjustments of area have taken place.

Resignation and resumption of leases.

54. In the district of Nowgong two grants, covering an area of 113 acres, in Sibságar one grant covering an area of 1,279 acres, and in Lakhimpur one grant covering an area of 248·83 acres were permitted to be resigned during the year under report. In Dhubri and Lakhimpur Messrs. Kinney & Co.'s re-survey, and in Nowgong the cadastral survey, produced an increase in the area settled. In North Lakhimpur and Dibrugarh 148 acres of this increase were included in three different existing grants, instead of being formed into separate new grants, and were treated as assessable according to the terms of the original grants to which they were attached.

In Sylhet no lease was resumed or relinquished during the year under review, but the relinquishment of two grants sanctioned last year took effect from the year 1888-89.

Leases brought under assessment.

55. The total number of leases settled up to the close of 1888-89 under the special Waste Land Rules is 597. Of these, 572 leases, containing an area of 227,526 acres, have come under assessment as detailed in the statement given below:—

District.	Number of leases.	Area in acres.	Revenue.
			Rs.
Cachar	1	69	26
Sylhet	100	67,650	67,650
Goálpára	1	360	135
Kámrúp	25	5,400	2,359
Darrang	122	38,156	15,322
Nowgong	96	34,955	17,029
Sibságar	134	46,440	19,131
Lakhimpur	92	34,416	15,149
Khási and Jaintia Hills	1	80	30
Total ...	572	227,526	1,36,831

The increase in revenue is almost entirely due to the expiry of the revenue-free term, and to the grant coming under enhanced rates of assessment.

Price of timber.

56. The following statement shows the demands, collections, remissions, and balances on account of the price of timber on waste lands settled during the year under report:—

District.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sylhet	2,900	.....	2,900	.....	.....	.....	.....
Darrang	5,912	.....	3,679	.....	.....	2,233	.....
Sibságar	763	.....	763	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lakhimpur	1,835	736	1,835	736	.....	.....	.....
Total	11,410	736	9,177	736	.....	2,233	.....

Of the total demand of Rs. 12,146, Rs. 9,913 were collected during the year, leaving a sum of Rs. 2,233 unrealized at its close. The whole of the balance is on account of current demand, and is due from the district of Darrang.

57. The following statement shows lands taken up under the ordinary Assam Settlement Rules (Section II.) by tea-planters, presumably with the object of cultivating tea. In this table conversions of leases from the annual to the decennial category are treated as fresh leases:—

Waste land taken up under the Assam Settlement Rules.

District.	1887-88.				1888-89.				Existing at the end of 1888-89.			
	Number of fresh leases.		Area in acres.	Revenue.	Number of fresh leases.		Area in acres.	Revenue.	Total number of leases.		Area in acres.	Revenue.
	Decennial.	Annual.			Decennial.	Annual.			Decennial.	Annual.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Rs.				Rs.				Rs.
Goálpára	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	.....	.....	1	...	192	96
Kámrúp	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	.....	.....	81	...	2,941	4,453
Darrang	4	2	137	210	6	2	136	714	187	6	12,608	18,783
Nowgong.....	...	...	.....	.....	2	1	234	355	47	1	2,917	4,476
Sibságar	13	10	1,505	2,380	20	4	859	1,299	415	14	46,945	71,745
Lakhimpur	4	1	196	297	7	3	849	1,390	197	10	20,413	32,831
Total.....	21	13	1,838	2,887	35	10	2,078	3,758	928	31	86,016	1,32,384

Lands taken up by tea-planters under the ordinary Settlement Rules are supposed to be taken up for permanent occupation. The standing orders on the subject are to issue decennial leases for such lands. The above statement shows that not only do old annual leases for such lands exist, but also that fresh annual leases were issued during the year in Darrang, Nowgong, Sibságar, and Lakhimpur. Of the six annual leases existing at the end of 1888-89 in Mangaldai, four are for roadside lands, for which only annual leases are given; the land covered by the remaining two was formerly held on decennial leases, but erroneously treated by the Cadastral Survey Party as held on annual *patta*, and annual *pattas* were accordingly issued for it. The Deputy-Commissioner states that the mistake will be rectified in the current year. The annual lease issued during the year in Nowgong was for an area found in excess in a Thirty-year Lease Rule grant. The Deputy-Commissioner reports that it will be converted into a decennial lease during the current year. Three annual leases in Golágháť and two in Jorháť are for roadside lands. The remaining two leases in each of these sub-divisions will be converted into decennial leases during the current year. Of the five annual leases in the Sibságar sub-division, three are for lands within the town (for which only annual *pattas* are given); the holder of one has refused to accept a decennial lease, and the remaining one will be made decennial this year. In Dibrugarh three decennial leases have been made annual because the land lies in the vicinity of the railway, and decennial leases were issued by mistake. Of the remaining seven leases in that sub-division, two are for land within the limits of the Jaipur town, one falls within the Dibrugarh Municipality, and four are for reserved lands on the margin of roads.

58. In Cachar, 16 applications were made during the year for land required for tea cultivation. Of these, 8 estates, comprising an area of 861 acres, bearing a maximum revenue of Rs. 1,014, were settled under the *Jangalburi* Lease Rules. In one case the interchange of *patta* and *kabuliyat* was not effected within the year. The total number of *mirasdári* and *jangalburi* estates held in this district for the cultivation of tea was 256 on the 1st April 1889, covering an area of 87,231 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 59,111.

Waste land taken up under the ordinary reclamation leases in Cachar.

59. One lease only was granted during the year under the modified *Ilám* Rules in the district of Sylhet. This, moreover, was given by a mistake of the settling officer and the settlement was not confirmed by higher authority. Steps are now being taken to settle this grant. The total number of grants under these rules was 62, covering an area of 27,771 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 16,312.

Waste land taken up under the modified *Ilám* Rules in Sylhet.

Grants under the Rules of 1838.

60. There has been no change since last year in the number, area, or revenue of the grants held under the rules of 1838. The details are shown in the following statement :—

District.	Number.	Area in acres.	Revenue. Rs.
Kámrúp	2	39	55
Sibságar	16	5,494	7,159
Total	18	5,533	7,214

Grants under the Rules of 1854.

61. The following table shows particulars of the grants still held under the Rules of 1854:—

District.	Number of grants.	Area in acres.	Present revenue. Rs.	Eventual maximum revenue. Rs.
Cachar	23	26,005	7,314	7,314
Sylhet	4	6,997	1,968	1,968
Kámrúp	4	1,019	222	310
Darrang	1	293	83	83
Nowgong	2	465	131	131
Sibságar	2	734	206	206
Total ...	36	35,513	9,924	10,012

The two grants in the district of Nowgong and all the grants in Cachar and Sylhet, having completed their 25th year, have been assessed at the enhanced rate. As stated in paragraph 57 of last year's report, the grants there shown in the North Lakhimpur sub-division were resigned with effect from the 1st April 1888, decennial leases for the area actually under cultivation being issued to the grantees.

Commutation of Old Rule grants to fee-simple.

62. In the following statement are shown the Old Rule grants commuted to fee-simple and the amount of purchase-money realised and remaining to be realised on account of such grants in each district :—

District.	Number of grants.	Area in acres.	Government revenue at the time of commutation. Rs.	Price of commutation paid, including part payments for grants sold for arrears. Rs.	Price remaining to be paid. Rs.
Cachar	67	136,207	6,660	4,61,812	18,044
Sylhet	1	2,340	.....	7,924	.....
Kámrúp	23	13,178	80	43,430	.....
Darrang	15	6,758	347	27,500	.....
Nowgong.....	13	6,103	294	24,263	.....
Sibságar	111	93,625	2,467	3,41,568	.....
Lakhimpur.....	41	30,275	1,229	38,082	.....
Total	271	288,486	11,077	9,44,579	18,044

There is no balance of redemption-money to be paid, except a sum of Rs. 18,044 in the district of Cachar.

Fee-simple grants.

63. The following statement gives the particulars of fee-simple grants and the amount of purchase-money realised and remaining to be realised on account of such grants in each district :—

District.	Number of grants sold.	Area in acres.	Price realised. Up to the close of 1887-88. Rs.	Price realised. In 1888-89.	Price remaining to be realised.
Cachar	23	9,587	60,150	.....	.....
Kámrúp	17	4,456	19,712	.....	.....
Darrang	87	45,556	1,53,024	.....	.....
Nowgong	42	15,391	74,215	.....	.....
Sibságar	51	31,390	3,27,292	.....	.....
Lakhimpur	101	86,927	3,49,384	.....	.....
Total	321	193,307	9,83,777	.....	.....

The decrease of 19 acres in the area of fee-simple grants in the Dibrugarh sub-division is due to Messrs. Kinney and Anderson's re-survey. It will be observed that nothing is shown as outstanding on account of the price of the grants. At the close of 1887-88 there was a balance of Rs. 650 on account of purchase-money in the Dibrugarh sub-division. This amount was remitted under the orders of the Government of India, conveyed in letter No. $\frac{514B.}{1-H-26}$, dated the 14th July 1888.

Waste land taken up for tea-planting during the past five years, and altogether up to the end of 1888-89.

64. The following statement gives particulars as to the waste lands taken up for the cultivation of tea during the past five years, and of grants existing at the end of the year under report, under the different tenures :—

Nature of tenure.	Number and area of grants taken up in										Total on the 1st April 1889.	
	1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.		1888-89.			
	Number.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.	Number.	Area in acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I.—Thirty years' Lease Rules of 1876.	19	8,286	15	6,285	12	4,613	10	3,805	17	2,302	597	231,381
II.—Leases under the ordinary Settlement Rules of Assam Proper.	213	20,298	317	23,338	76	6,117	34	1,837	45	2,078	959	86,016
III.—Ordinary reclamation leases taken for tea-planting in Cachar and Sylhet.	2	608	....	....	13	1,303	12	768	7	1,351	262	97,352
IV.—Leases under the modified Ilám Rules (Sylhet).	1	33½	2	2,159	....	.....	....	.....	....	....	62	27,771
V.—Grants under the Old Rules of 1838.	....	....	....	....	....	.....	....	.....	....	....	18	6,583
VI.—Ditto ditto of 1854	....	....	....	....	....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	36	35,513
VII.—Grants redeemed	4	2,160	1	1,046	....	.....	2	1,105	....	....	271	288,486
VIII.—Fee-simple grants	....	....	....	....	....	.....	....	.....	....	....	321	193,307
Total	239	31,385½	335	32,828	101	12,033	58	7,515	69	5,731	2,526	965,359

The total area reported to be under tea-cultivation in 1888 was only 216,676 acres. The area held by tea-planters (exclusive of gardens on permanently-settled land in the district of Sylhet) is 965,359 acres, so that they hold a much larger area than is actually used for the growth of tea. Of the remainder, much is occupied by buildings and roads, a considerable amount is under ordinary crops, chiefly rice; while a large area is still under jungle, either awaiting reclamation or reserved for the supply of fuel, thatching-grass, &c.

SECTION VIII.—Local Rates.

Assessment.

65. There was no change in the mode of assessment or collection of the rates under the Assam Local Rates Regulation during the year under report. The total current demand amounted to Rs. 5,25,836, against Rs. 5,21,256 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 4,580, or ·88 per cent., as compared with an increase of 1·72 per cent. in the land revenue demand. Ordinarily the percentage of increase in the local rates should be more than that of land revenue, because, in addition to the rise proportionate to the rise in the revenue of revenue-paying estates, local rates should rise as the cultivation increases in the revenue-free estates. The low percentage of increase during the year under review is due to a very insignificant increase of Rs. 61 in the revenue-free estates in the Assam Valley districts. The assessment on these estates is made on the cultivation reported by the owners. Annual leases in the Assam Valley show an increase of 10·41 per cent. in land revenue, and of 10·78 per cent. in local rates, and decennial leases show a decrease of 2·05 per cent. in land revenue and of 1·99 per cent. in local rates; so the assessment on the revenue-paying estates has been fairly accurate.

All the districts of the Province show an increase in the assessment of local rates, except Goálpára and Sylhet. The cause of decrease in the Goálpára district is attributable partly to the correction of an error in the assessment of a revenue-free estate, and partly to the decrease in land under annual leases in the Eastern Duárs. The decrease of Rs. 58 in the Sylhet district, which showed an increase of Rs. 3,658 during the previous year, is due to revision of assessments, made on objections or otherwise.

The following statement apportions the current demand amongst the different tenures in each district:—

District.	Permanently-settled estates.	Temporarily-settled estates.	Waste land grants.	Revenue-free tenures.	Total.	Increase or decrease, as compared with the demand for 1887-88.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	.....	20,392	8,511	122	29,025	+713
Sylhet	1,96,388	12,654	2,461	3,800	2,15,303	—58
Goálpára	51,180	5,523	8	4,121	60,832	—72
Kámrúp	.....	72,887	944	4,235	78,066	+360
Darrang	.....	31,305	3,100	744	35,149	+677
Nowgong	.....	30,184	2,412	436	33,032	+878
Sibságar.....	.....	45,076	7,778	1,064	53,918	+1,451
Lakhimpur ...	.....	14,818	5,370	323	20,511	+631
Total	2,47,568	2,32,839	30,584	14,845	5,25,836	+4,580

Summary of collections.

66. The following statement shows the demand (current and arrear), collections, remissions, and balances on account of local rate in each district for the last two years:—

District.	Demand.				Collections.				Remissions.		Balance.			
	1887-88.		1888-89.		1887-88.		1888-89.				1887-88.		1888-89.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	1887-88.	1888-89.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	28,312	3,254	29,025	6,063	23,278	2,836	27,383	5,298	9	459	5,034	409	1,642	306
Sylhet	2,15,361	1,881	2,15,303	7,385	2,07,232	1,286	2,13,146	6,776	83	8	8,129	512	2,157	601
Goálpára	60,904	130	60,832	9,957	50,947	130	60,831	9,957	...	...	9,957	...	1	...
Kámrúp	77,706	134	78,066	8	77,706	18	78,050	8	116	...	...	...	16	...
Darrang	34,472	432	35,149	10	34,472	431	35,143	10	1	3	...	...	3	...
Nowgong... ...	32,154	2	33,032	62	32,154	2	33,006	3	...	...	...	...	26	59
Sibságar	52,467	456	53,918	221	52,279	449	53,908	221	7	...	188	...	10	...
Lakhimpur	19,880	568	20,511	13	19,880	568	20,511	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	5,21,256	6,857	5,25,836	23,719	4,97,948	5,720	5,21,978	22,286	216	470	23,308	921	3,855	966

The total demand of the year, including arrears, amounted to Rs. 5,49,555, of which the sum of Rs. 5,44,264 (Rs. 5,21,978 current and Rs. 22,286 arrear), or 99·03 per cent., was collected and Rs. 470, or ·09 per cent., remitted, leaving an unrealised balance of Rs. 4,821, or ·88 per cent., of which Rs. 2,364 have been paid in since the close of the year, Rs. 21 remitted, and the balance, due from the districts named in the margin, is in process of realisation.

Cachar	Rs. 440
Sylhet	„ 1,996
	„ 2,436

Incidence of taxation.

67. The incidence of the tax per head of population in the several districts is shown below:—

District.	Total population.	Total assessment.	Incidence per head.
		Rs.	As. P.
Cachar	313,858	29,025	1 6
Sylhet	1,969,009	2,15,303	1 9
Goálpára	446,232	60,832	2 2
Kámrúp	644,960	78,066	1 11
Darrang	273,333	35,149	2 0
Nowgong	310,579	33,032	1 8
Sibságar	370,274	53,918	2 3
Lakhimpur	179,893	20,511	1 9
Total	4,508,138	5,25,836	1 10

The incidence, as in last year, is highest in Sibságar and lowest in Cachar.

SECTION IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Regulation and Rules.

68. During the year under report the Chief Commissioner issued rules under Section 27 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation for the recovery of the cost of survey marks used for the purpose of the cadastral survey, and made an addition to Rule 16 of the rules under Chapter IV. of the Regulation relating to the registration of talukdári and other tenures. Instructions were also issued regarding the procedure to be followed in disposing of mutation cases.

Acquisition of land for public purposes.

69. The statement below shows the area of land taken up for public purposes during the year under review, and the compensation paid for it :—

District.	Area taken. A. R. P. Y.	Compensation paid. Rs. As. P.
Cachar	90 2 3 0	2,164 2 9
Sylhet	326 1 13 10	25,310 9 4
Goálpára	18 3 14 0	350 0 0
Kámrúp	3 0 11 0	.....
Nowgong	0 1 24 0	.....
Sibságar	2 1 38 0	45 0 0
Total	441 2 23 10	27,869 12 1

No compensation was paid for the small areas of land taken up in the districts of Kámrúp and Nowgong. Table VIII. appended to this report shows in detail the purposes for which the land was taken up and the amount of compensation paid in each case. The expenditure is largest in Sylhet, where much land has been taken up for new roads.

Partition of estates.

70. Two partition cases were instituted during the year in the district of Sylhet. Adding 5 cases pending at the close of the previous year, there were altogether 7 cases for disposal. Of these, two were disposed of within the year and 5 remained pending, *viz.*, one ready for disposal, one awaiting measurement, and two cases in which partition has been made, but the time prescribed for putting in objections has not yet expired. In the fifth case the parties have asked for time in order to settle their disputes amicably.

Sale of proprietary rights in Government estates.

71. There was no sale of proprietary rights in Government estates during the year.

Registration of estates and mutation cases.

72. The number of mutation cases instituted during the year (including the cases instituted in the cadastral settlement office in Nowgong) was 27,163, against 24,125 in the previous year, showing a net increase of 3,038, or 12·59 per cent. The details for each district are exhibited below:—

District.	Number of mutation cases instituted in		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
	1887-88.	1838-89.			Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	4,774	3,550	...	1,224	.....	25·64
Sylhet	10,197	9,113	...	1,084	.....	10·63
Goálpára	62	29	...	33	.....	53·23
Kámrúp	2,570	2,771	201	...	7·82	.....
Darrang	2,732	1,087	...	1,645	.....	60·21
Nowgong	*2,346	9,345	6,999	..	298·34	.....
Sibságar	1,074	1,056	...	18	.....	1·68
Lakhimpur	370	212	...	158	.....	42·70
Total	24,125	27,163	7,200	4,162	.....	.....
Net increase ...	.....	.....	3,038		12·59	

* In last year's report the cases (1,584) instituted in the cadastral settlement office were not included.

No explanation has been furnished by the Deputy-Commissioner of the falling off in Cachar. In Sylhet the decrease is mainly due to the general expectation of a change in the law according to which the registration of estates in that district is compulsory, and partly to the Chief Commissioner's orders requiring the boundaries of lands to be given in applications for the registration of specific lands.

In Goálpára the decrease is due to the abandonment of the wrong procedure followed in 1887-88 of allowing mutations in annual leases.

The considerable decrease in Darrang is due to the removal of the cadastral survey office, which accounted for a large increase in the year before.

The cadastral survey accounts for the large increase in the number of cases instituted in the district of Nowgong. Of the 9,345 cases instituted during the year, 8,457 cases were instituted in the cadastral settlement office. The Deputy-Commissioner writes—

"Under the ordinary measurements by the mauzadárs, the landowners were quite apathetic as to whether the lands were entered in their owners' names or in the names of their predecessors, as they were all along under the impression they would not be deprived of their holdings as long as they enjoyed possession of them and paid the revenue assessed thereon. When the cadastral survey party commenced their operations in the district, a rumour got afloat to the effect that, unless the lands were registered in the cadastral survey papers in the names of the real owners, they would never get them again. Owing to this rumour, numerous applications were filed in the cadastral settlement office for mutation of names in lands which heretofore stood in the names of predecessors in title, whether dead or alive; and this led to a large increase in the number of mutation cases. Of course, the mauzadárs are greatly to blame for allowing such a state of things to continue from year to year without bringing it to notice. I have issued strict orders that any transfer of a holding, owing to a death, sale, gift, &c., which comes to their notice, must at once be reported."

Including 9,600 cases pending at the beginning of the year, there were 36,763 cases for disposal, of which 30,320 cases were disposed of during the year, leaving 6,443 pending on 31st March 1889. The following table shows the number and proportion of cases disposed of out of the total number of estates in each district:—

District.	Pending on the 1st April 1888.	Instituted during 1888-89.	Total for disposal.	Disposed of during 1888-89.	Pending on the 1st April 1889.	Number of estates, exclusive of annual leases.	Percentage of cases disposed of to the number of estates.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cachar	4,094	3,550	7,644	5,811	1,833	10,495	55·37
Sylhet	4,334	9,113	13,447	10,088	3,359	97,260	10·37
Goálpára	15	29	44	44	.....	13	338·46
Kámrúp	524	2,771	3,295	2,650	645	76,574	3·46
Darrang	119	1,087	1,206	1,127	79	47,468	2·37
Nowgong	264	9,345	9,609	9,307	302	56,683	16·42
Sibságar	244	1,056	1,300	1,077	223	72,452	1·49
Lakhimpur	6	212	218	216	2	23,990	·90
Total	9,600	27,163	36,763	30,320	6,443	3,85,035	7·87

Rent suits in the Assam Valley.

73. As stated in previous reports, rent suits are now tried by the Civil Courts. But a few cases, chiefly execution cases, where the decree has to be carried out by the revenue authorities, still remain in the revenue offices, as the following statement of institutions shows:—

Nature.	1887-88.			1888-89.		
	Goál-pára.	Assam Proper.	Total.	Goál-pára.	Assam Proper.	Total.
1. Miscellaneous applications...	3	...	3	...	...	...
2. Execution cases	9	1	10	12	...	12
3. Appeals	...	...	...	...	1	1
Total	12	1	13	12	1	13

The following table shows how these cases were disposed of:—

	Pending at the close of 1887-88.	Instituted in 1888-89.	Disposed of.	Balance.
Dhubri.....	1	12	12	1
Kámrúp	...	1	1	...
Total	1	13	13	1

Revenue business in Deputy-Commissioners' offices.

74. The number of revenue cases instituted during the year was 470,109 and 13,630 cases remained pending at the close of the previous year; thus, there were altogether 483,739 cases for disposal, of which 473,282 cases were disposed of and 10,457 remained pending on the 1st April 1889. The figures for each district are given in Table VII. of the appendix, of which the following is an abstract:—

Description of cases.	Pending on the 1st April 1888.	Instituted in 1888-89.	Disposed of in 1888-89.	Pending on the 1st April 1889.
I.—Settlements	403	4,31,278	4,31,240	441
II.—Miscellaneous cases.....	2,204	8,240	8,777	1,667
III.—Mutations..	9,600	27,163	30,320	6,443
IV.—Cases under other different heads specified in Table VII. of the Appendices.	1,423	3,428	2,945	1,906
Total.....	13,630	4,70,109	4,73,282	10,457

Conduct of mauzadárs in the Assam Valley districts.

75. In the Eastern Duárs, the Deputy-Commissioner considers that the mauzadárs have, on the whole, worked well. The system of deputing the Sub-Deputy-Collector to the Duárs for nearly half the year is said to have effected a great check upon the objectionable practices of the old class of mauzadárs in levying unlawful exactions from the ryots. In 1887-88 the Sub-Deputy-Collector brought to light the misconduct of two mauzadárs, one of whom resigned, and the other was dismissed. In the year under report he detected the mauzadár of Sidli Circle II. in altering the amount of revenue in the *pattas*, and thereby realizing more than was actually due from the ryots. The mauzadár was prosecuted criminally, but the prosecution broke down for want of sufficient evidence. The mauzadár and the mandal who were implicated in the transaction have been dismissed.

The sub-divisional officer of Barpeta reports that, on the whole, he is satisfied with the conduct of the mauzadárs in his sub-division.

The Deputy-Commissioner of Darrang makes no remarks on the conduct of his mauzadárs during the year.

The Deputy-Commissioner of Nowgong states that the conduct of the mauzadárs in his district has been generally not very satisfactory. One mauzadár was dismissed, having been convicted of a criminal offence (systematic extortion of money from the ryots of his mauza on the pretence of collecting income-tax), and sentenced to imprisonment and fine, and another was dismissed for submitting a false report in connection with a waste land application, and for general misconduct and inefficiency. Two other mauzadárs have since been removed, being old defaulters and heavily involved in debt. The mauzadár of Hatichong has also been dismissed since the close of the year, in consequence of the discovery of concealed cultivation in his mauza. The conduct of the mauzadárs of Juria and Mayong, where concealed cultivation and wrong classification have been discovered, is under enquiry.

The Deputy-Commissioner of Sibságar states that the conduct of his mauzadárs was generally good during the year, but almost all of them are backward in paying their revenue, and most of them are in debt.

The conduct of the mauzadárs in the Dibrugarh sub-division is reported to have been on the whole good. Six mauzadárs in Dibrugarh (three of whom are Khámptis or Phakials) are illiterate.

In the North Lakhimpur sub-division the conduct of the mauzadár of Maskhowa, where concealed cultivation has been discovered, is under enquiry. He is the only absolutely illiterate mauzadár in the sub-division.

Tahsils.

76. During the year under report, two new tahsils, with head-quarters at Nalbári and Baroma, were opened in the Gauháti sub-division, absorbing 9 mauzas; and 4 mauzas were amalgamated with the Hajo, Rangia, and Tambulpur tahsils. Except Beltola, where there is a special arrangement, as already explained in paragraph 16, no mauzas in that sub-division now remain under the administration of mauzadárs. In the Mangaldai sub-division, a new tahsil (called the Northern Mangaldai Tahsil) was opened, with head-quarters at Kalaigaon, in the centre of the sub-division. This tahsil comprises 9 mauzas. The number of mauzas now remaining in charge of mauzadárs in this sub-division is 20.

The following statement shows the cultivated area, revenue, and population of each tahsil in the districts of Kámrúp and Darrang at the close of the year 1888-89:—

Tahsil.	Cultivated area.	Land revenue.	Local rates.	Total revenue.	Population.
BARPETA.	Bighas.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Bajali	121,534	72,497	5,035	77,532	42,205
GAUHÁTI.					
1. Gauháti	103,098	66,184	4,376	70,560	64,811
2. Palasbári	150,482	88,634	5,816	94,450	52,967
3. Chhaigaon	70,154	43,005	2,740	45,745	20,214
4. Luki	52,139	34,967	2,220	37,187	24,024
5. Chamaria	57,797	32,341	2,092	34,433	20,484
6. Pati Darrang	128,319	69,709	5,237	74,946	57,096
7. Rangia	161,093	88,889	6,684	95,573	58,427
8. Tambulpur	86,417	54,710	3,609	58,319	33,426
9. Hajo	158,153	86,204	5,918	92,122	82,473
10. Nalbari	168,455	97,343	6,938	1,04,281	74,142
11. Baroma	108,198	63,037	4,440	67,477	33,686
Total Kámrúp	1,365,839	7,97,520	55,105	8,52,625	563,955
MANGALDAI.					
1. Hindughopa	133,119	85,867	5,518	91,385	50,987
2. Kalaigaon	90,075	58,061	3,680	61,741	30,599
TEZPUR.					
1. Tezpur	79,700	50,238	3,243	53,481	23,683
Total Darrang	302,894	1,94,166	12,441	2,06,607	105,269
Grand Total	1,668,733	9,91,686	67,546	10,59,232	669,224

The whole land revenue of the fifteen tahsils, amounting to Rs. 9,91,686, was collected before the close of the year. Out of the total local rates, Rs. 67,546, Rs. 67,530 were collected before 31st March 1889; Rs. 16 remained outstanding in the Bajali tahsil. The Deputy-Commissioner reports that the balance is in course of realization.

The following statement shows the character of the work done by tahsildárs, apart from their revenue collecting duties:—

Tahsil.	Number of cases reported on.			Miscellaneous applications and applications for relinquishments disposed of.	Number of revenue processes issued.
	Mutation cases.	Waste land applications.	Miscellaneous cases.		
BARPETA.					
1. Bajali	154	10	24	3,183	636
GAUHÁTI.					
1. Gauháti	136	68	39	1,075	576
2. Palasbári	228	24	58	1,492	496
3. Chhaigaon	230	31	26	1,065	763
4. Luki	135	28	8	2,154	459
5. Chamaria	30	8	6	2,251	331
6. Pati Darrang	244	77	37	612	836
7. Rangia	162	129	33	1,914	709
8. Tambulpur	57	17	5	2,108	229
9. Hajo	186	57	37	3,823	1,120
10. Nalbari	592	54	135	784	1,413
11. Baroma	43	7	18	1,667	303
MANGALDAI.					
1. Hindughopa	382	209	11	1,802	1,318
2. Kalaigaon	34	1	.....	1,827	40
TEZPUR.					
1. Tezpur	147	906	830	564	1,705
Total	2,760	1,626	1,267	26,321	10,934

The Tezpur tahsildár, owing to a misunderstanding of orders, disposed of, instead of referring, a number of applications for waste lands in his tahsil.

Besides the work shown in the preceding statement, some of the tahsildárs carried out some test measurements.

Mauzadári system.

77. The Deputy-Commissioner of Goálpára thinks that the mauzadárs in the Eastern Duárs might, with advantage, be replaced by a tahsildár. The same suggestion was made by Mr. Johnson in the course of last summer. The difficulty is, however, to find a competent man willing to face the risks of this unhealthy and isolated tract. In the district of Kámrúp, the mauzadári system has, except in Barpeta, ceased to exist. In that sub-division the establishment of a new tahsil at Roha is under consideration. In Nowgong it will doubtless be found possible to establish tahsils when the results of the cadastral survey are known. It has been arranged to open an experimental tahsil at Jorhát as soon as the cadastral survey in that sub-division is completed. The Deputy-Commissioner of Lakhimpur states that the mauzadári system is well suited to that district, and that he is endeavouring to amalgamate mauzas, whereby the cost to Government would be reduced, but the emoluments of the mauzadárs would be improved.

Survey schools for mauzadárs and mandals.

78. The subject of survey schools is reported on in detail by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. Only the main results are shown below:—

On the 1st April 1888 there were four schools, at Gauháti, Golághát, Jorhát, and Sibságar. The school at Jorhát was abolished from May 1888, and the two at Golághát and Sibságar from 1st October 1888. Only the Gauháti School remained in existence at the close of the year under report.

Tahsildárs are now required to pass the Survey School examinations. During the year under report two of the Kámrúp tahsildárs, Babu Bangshidhar Sarma, tahsildár of Patidarrang, and Babu Chini Ram Das, tahsildár of Chamaria, appeared at the annual examination and obtained certificates, and three other tahsildárs of that district passed the term examination. The tahsildár of Tezpur also passed the term examination.

The following statements shows the number of students who attended the schools in 1887-88 and 1888-89, and the number who passed the examination:—

	Number attended.						Average daily attendance.		Number examined.								Number passed who obtained first-class and second-class certificates.							
	Mauzadárs.		Mandals.		Volunteers.				Tahsildárs.		Mauzadárs.		Mandals.		Volunteers.		Tahsildárs.		Mauzadárs.		Mandals.		Volunteers.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Gauháti	3	4	68	69	195	282	50·97	44·89	..	10*	3	7	43	90	164	251	..	5†	3	5	14	44	72	111
Mangaldai ..	..	..	32	..	6	..	13·7	..	..	..	..	..	32	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	2	..
Nowgong	..	..	33	..	16	..	25·	..	..	..	..	..	42	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	13	..
Golághát	1	..	25	28	3	3	19·7	14·09	..	..	..	..	25	28	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..
Jorhát	2	..	30	14	4	5	13·1	12·1	..	..	2	..	36	10	9	4	..	..	2	..	22	3	7	1
Sibságar	2	..	56	18	17	5	16·42	11·02	..	..	2	..	67	39	17	8	..	..	2	..	17	17	6	5
Total....	8	4	244	129	241	295	23·14	20·52	..	10	7	7	245	167	224	266	..	5	7	5	73	79	100	117

* Five in the term examination, and five in the annual examination.
† Three in the term examination and two in the annual examination.

During the year under report the annual examination for first-class certificates was held only at the Gauháti School, the other schools having been closed before the examination took place.

Two tahsildárs, three mauzadárs, four mandals, and two volunteers passed the examination.

The expenditure incurred during the year in maintaining the survey schools amounted to Rs. 2,585, as compared with Rs. 3,923 in 1887-88.

In the Gauháti School the receipts fell off during the year from Rs. 1,144 to Rs. 960, and there has been an increase in the expenditure. This increase is attributed to an outlay of Rs. 150 on account of a boarding-house for the pupils, and to a larger amount being paid in rewards to the masters than in the preceding year.

The amount incurred in entertaining substitutes for mauzadárs and mandals who attended the survey schools during the year was Rs. 560, against Rs. 1,083 in the year before.

The Deputy-Commissioner of Goálpára reports that two mandals of the Eastern Duárs applied for and obtained permission to read in the Gauháti Survey School after the regular settlement of the current year.

Boundary-marks on waste land grants.

79. No inspection of boundary-marks was made during the year in the districts of Kámrúp and Nowgong. The enquiry set on foot in 1887-88, relative to the erection of permanent boundary-marks on thirty-years' leasehold grants in the Tezpur sub-division showed that all such grants except those very recently made have proper boundary-marks. The Deputy-Commissioner states that the Government surveyor attached to his office has been engaged in inspecting the boundaries of the latter grants. The two grantees in the Mangaldai sub-division, referred to in paragraph 74 of the Report for 1887-88, are reported to have erected substantial boundary-marks.

In Sibságar, the boundary-marks of three grants were inspected by the Sub-Deputy-Collector at Golághát, and those of 15 grants by the Government surveyor. It is stated that these officers have not verified the boundaries with the original survey maps in order to ascertain whether the pillars were erected in the right places. The Deputy-Commissioner states that, as all the grants in the district will come under cadastral survey, the verification of the boundary and demarcation by the district establishments is not considered necessary.

The demarcation of all the grants re-surveyed by Messrs. Kinney and Anderson in the district of Lakhimpur up to the close of the year is reported to have been completed.

Work done by subordinate executive establishments.

80. In Sylhet, the only Sub-Deputy-Collector, Babu Akshay Kumar Chatterji, was on leave for three months. He and his *locum tenens* were employed as general assistants to the sub-divisional officer at Sunámganj.

In Cachar, the establishment during the year was the same as in 1887-88, *viz.*, two Government surveyors with an assistant, and they did the following work:—

Testing measurements in *khás* settlement cases	...	...	266
Ditto ditto in connection with relinquishment cases		...	13
Ditto ditto in connection with civil suits	...	...	1
Tracings	...	...	184
Area calculated by planimeter and area comb	...	...	12,234 acres.
Original measurements	...	...	19

The work done by the subordinate executive establishments in the Assam Valley districts is shown below :—

		Acres.
1.	Tested mauzadárs' and surveyors' measurements	28,274
2.	Surveyed and measured *patta* and other lands	4,739
3.	Ditto ditto Thirty-year Lease Rule grants	2,958
4.	Ditto ditto Ten-year Lease Rule grants	1,267
5.	Ditto ditto *la-khiráj* and *nisf-khiráj* lands	8,315
6.	Mauza area surveyed	1,351
7.	Tested assessment of local rates	287

The Sub-Deputy-Collectors and their establishments were also employed in making enquiries in revenue and criminal cases, demarcating waste land grants, supervising mauzadárs' settlements, preparing and copying maps, making crop experiments, and in other miscellaneous work. Some of them were also employed in connection with the cadastral survey.

Sonthal colony.

81. In November 1887, when Captain Maxwell inspected the Sonthal colony in Guma Duár, the total population of the settlement was 590. On March 13th, 1889, Mr. Godfrey visited the colony and reported that the population consisted at the end of the year 1888 of 520 persons, and that several persons had left the colony for the Mornoi tea-garden across the river. There were no fresh arrivals during the year. The progress of the colony has been at a stand-still in consequence of a dispute between the missionaries and the neighbouring tea-planter. The matter has formed the subject of correspondence with the Government of India.

The following statement shows the total area under cultivation by the colonists and the proportion of cultivated area per head of population during the past two years:—

	1887-88.			1888-89.			Proportion of cultivated area per head of population.	
	Rupit.	Faringati.	Total.	Rupit.	Faringati.	Total.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.	B. K. L.
Revenue free	101 1 11½	47 2 12½	148 4 3¾	45 2 3	20 2 2	65 4 5	0 1 5	0 0 15
Half rate.....	61 4 11	83 2 3	145 1 14	102 0 0	56 4 4	158 4 4	0 1 4½	0 1 17
Full rate.....	687 4 14	904 4 3	1,592 3 17	753 2 10	921 0 12	1,674 3 2	2 3 9½	3 4 10
Total.....	851 0 16½	1,035 3 18½	1,886 4 14¾	900 4 13	998 1 18	1,899 1 11	3 0 19	4 2 2

The following account shows the amount advanced to, recovered from, and the balance outstanding against, the settlers up to end of 1888-89. No advances were made during the year under report, there having been no new arrivals :—

	Amount advanced.	Amount recovered.	Balance outstanding.
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
Colonists of 1881	4,115 14 6	3,962 9 0	153 5 6
Ditto of 1882	516 8 0	431 14 0	84 10 0
Ditto of 1883	363 0 0	314 0 0	49 0 0
Ditto of 1884	128 0 0	50 0 0	78 0 0
Ditto of 1885 and 1886	76 0 0	29 0 0	47 0 0
Total.....	5,199 6 6	4,787 7 0	411 15 6

Land granted on favourable terms on the side of the Laokhoa road in Nowgong.

82. One hundred and ten acres of land were taken up during the year on the sides of the Laokhoa road in Nowgong, where 15 acres had been settled the year before. These lands are granted revenue-free for three years, and the whole area is *faringati* suitable for *áhu* rice and mustard.

Settlement of time-expired garden labourers on the land.

83. The figures below show the amount of land held by immigrants, for the most part time-expired tea-garden coolies in the various districts of the Province :—

District.	1887. Acres.	1888. Acres.
Cachar	1,279	6,153
Sylhet	128	200
Kámrúp	15	15
Darrang	4,814	5,742
Nowgong	853	1,224
Sibságar	6,254	8,109
Lakhimpur	3,071	3,872
Total	16,414	25,315

These figures show a more or less considerable advance in the case of each district except Kámrúp ; but it must be remembered that the statistics do not include cultivation on waste land grants or settlements on private lands, but relate only to those immigrants who have settled on land held directly from Government. Writing on this subject, Mr. Kennedy, the Deputy-Commissioner of Cachar (the large increase shown in which district is understood to be due to the fact of more careful enquiry having been made), observes—

"As to the land cultivated by tea-garden coolies, it is quite impossible to give any reliable figures as to lands cultivated by coolies as tenants. There are two large tracts in the south of the sadr sub-division and one large one in the south of Hailákándi, where the time-expired coolies form an appreciable part of the cultivating population, but they hold mainly as tenants.

"As sub-tenants, coolies hold largely in the Chatla bhil in the sadr and in the south of the Hailákándi sub-division. I saw a good deal of their holdings during my cold-weather tour, and estimate that they hold nearly as much land as sub-tenants as mirasdárs. In this I do not include paddy-fields belonging to gardens leased by coolies, but include land leased by coolies who have finally left their gardens. Altogether, then, we may safely say coolies who have left garden work altogether cultivate close on 12,000 acres, which, at the rate of about 10 acres per household, would give a coolie population of 1,200 households. The sub-divisional officer of Hailákándi estimates three acres only per household ; but this estimate is based on the new settlements to take effect from the commencement of this year, which he has just made in the land thrown out of the Dhaleswar Reserve. The number of claimants there was so great that the amount of land allowed to each applicant had to be cut down very low. Five persons of all ages on an average are found in coolie families I should say, and this would give a total cultivating and settled coolie population, including children, of 6,000."

The Deputy-Commissioner of Sylhet writes on the same subject :—

"As regards land held by time-expired coolies, definite information is difficult to obtain ..... In the case of Government land, which is managed by a special establishment, like Partabgarh, alone can anything like exact figures be expected. It would seem that, on the 31st December 1888, 605 *bighas* and odd of land in the tahsil were actually cultivated by so-called time-expired coolies. Of this area 214 *bighas* and odd were brought under cultivation during 1888. On the 31st December 1886, the corresponding figure was 261 *bighas*; but this figure may not be very reliable."

The Deputy-Commissioner of Darrang reports that the land (5,742 acres) held by time-expired coolies in that district is held by 2,219 men, 1,984 women, and 2,719 children ; and he adds that—

"A large amount of *rupit* land on fee-simple estates is also cultivated by time-expired labourers, but Managers keep no statistics of the area so cultivated."

In Lakhimpur, the Deputy-Commissioner reports that one tea company in that district owning fee-simple grants has a large number of ryots settled in several villages on those grants, who are looked after by a mauzadár appointed by the Manager, the mauzadár keeping the books and making assessments exactly as the Government mauzadárs do, and that these ryots pay altogether about Rs. 700 a year as revenue. In the Darrang district, a somewhat similar state of things has been found to exist. The mode of treatment which should be applied to these and similar cases is under separate consideration.

Process-fees and process-serving establish-

84. The following statement gives the annual debit and credit account, showing the working of the process-serving establishments in the several districts of the Province of Assam:—

	Process-fees realised.	Cost of establishment.	Saving to Government.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	18,940	4,038	14,902
Sylhet	25,930	9,411	16,519
Goálpára	1,474	819	655
Kámrúp	4,649	3,419	1,230
Darrang	5,445	1,980	3,465
Nowgong	4,997	1,771	3,226
Sibságar	6,921	4,169	2,752
Lakhimpur	2,397	1,869	528
Total	70,753	27,476	43,277

The question of making some reduction in the scale of fees for the service of revenue processes, so as to assimilate the receipts to the expenditure, is now under the consideration of the Chief Commissioner.

By Order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. C. DAUKES,

Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT:
The 13th September 1889.

A. S. Press (P. & R.) No. 39—300—16-9-89.

APPENDICES.

TABLE I.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Ordinary Land Revenue, including Malikana of Estates on the Revenue-roll, during the year 1888-89.

Districts.	Number of estates.	Demands.			Collections.			Remissions.	Net balances.			Distribution of balances.		Percentage.					Payments in advance on account of the ensuing year.
		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Doubtful and irrecoverable.	In process of recovery.	Collections (col. 8) on demand (col. 5).	Remissions (col. 9) on demand (col. 5).	Total uncollected balances (col. 12) on demand (col. 5).	Doubtful and irrecoverable balances (col. 13) on demand (col. 5).	Recoverable balances (col. 14) on demand (col. 5).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs						Rs
Cachar	10,495	3,35,035	81,779	4,16,814	3,05,674	79,119	3,84,793	....	29,361	2,660	32,021	....	32,021	92·32	....	7·68	....	7·68	....
Sylhet { Temporarily-settled	47,278	2,61,152	30,895	2,92,047	2,38,200	24,176	2,62,376	1,020	22,947	5,704	28,651	2,197	26,454	89·84	·35	9·81	·75	9·06	22,035
Sylhet { Permanently-settled	49,982	3,66,627	5,449	3,72,076	3,66,015	5,348	3,71,363	....	612	101	713	49	664	99·81	....	·19	·01	·18	29,022
Total	97,260	6,27,779	36,344	6,64,123	6,04,215	29,524	6,33,739	1,020	23,559	5,805	29,364	2,246	27,118	95·42	·15	4·42	·34	4·08	51,057
Goálpára { Temporarily-settled	13,552	86,869	2,731	89,600	86,869	2,731	89,600	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	36
Goálpára { Permanently-settled	19	11,411	....	11,411	11,411	....	11,411	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	....
Total	13,571	98,280	2,731	1,01,011	98,280	2,731	1,01,011	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	36
Kámrúp	162,449	9,67,846	138	9,67,984	9,67,846	138	9,67,984	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	....
Darrang	98,759	4,72,620	175	4,72,795	4,72,529	168	4,72,697	54	44	....	44	44	....	99·98	·01	·01	·01	....	....
Nowgong	118,448	4,82,272	4,226	4,86,498	4,80,248	3,290	4,83,538	....	2,024	936	2,960	....	2,960	99·39	....	·61	....	·61	1
Sibságar	117,374	7,27,655	6,237	7,33,892	7,24,330	6,237	7,30,567	....	3,325	....	3,325	....	3,325	99·55	....	·45	....	·45	98
Lakhimpur	48,115	2,43,710	223	2,43,933	2,43,710	223	2,43,933	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	....
Nága Hills	281	1,462	....	1,462	1,462	....	1,462	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	....
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	25	5,370	....	5,370	5,356	....	5,356	....	14	....	14	....	14	99·74	....	·26	....	·26	8
Garo Hills.. { Temporarily-settled	4,359	14,891	591	15,482	14,690	507	15,197	80	194	11	205	....	205	98·16	·52	1·32	....	1·32	....
Garo Hills.. { Permanently-settled	1	12	....	12	12	....	12	....	....	....	....	....	....	100·00	....	....	....	....	....
Total	4,360	14,903	591	15,494	14,702	507	15,209	80	194	11	205	....	205	98·16	·52	1·32	....	1·32	....
Total temporarily-settled	621,135	35,98,882	1,26,995	37,25,877	35,40,914	1,16,589	36,57,503	1,154*	57,909	9,311	67,220	2,241	64,979	98·16	·03	1·80	·06	1·74	22,178
„ permanently-settled	50,002	3,78,050	5,449	3,83,499	3,77,438	5,348	3,82,786	....	612	101	713	49	664	99·81	....	·19	·01	·17	29,022
Grand Total	671,137	39,76,932	1,32,444	41,09,376	39,18,352	1,21,937	40,40,289	1,154*	58,521	9,412	67,933	2,290	65,643	98·32	·03	1·65	·06	1·60	51,200

* Current..... Rs. 59
Arrear ..... „ 1,095
Total.... „ 1,154

TABLE II.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Miscellaneous Land Revenue, during the year 1888-89.

Sources of Miscellaneous Land Revenue.	Cachar.								Sylhet.								Goálpára.								Kámrúp.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	1		2		3	4		5	6		7		8	9		10	11		12		13	14		15	16		17		18	19		20
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1. Revenue from elephant-*mahâls* ..	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,900	..	1,900	..	..	..	..	....
2. Royalty on elephants	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500	..	1,500	..	..	..	..	....
3. Fisheries	5,011	1,308	3,035	1,199	..	1,976	109	1,087	32,284	6,283	24,386	3,357	1,210	7,898	1,716	5,003	740	..	740	..	..	..	..	110	18,193	..	18,193	..	..	..	..	2,319
4. Poll-tax	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	2,251	242	1,818	97	50	433	95	221	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
5. House-tax	9,728	47	9,664	43	..	64	4	..	28	....	28	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,616	..	1,616	..	..	..	..	....
6. Lime-quarries	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
7. Stone-quarries	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
9. Salt-wells	23	....	23	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
10. Gold-washing	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
11. Sales of Government estates	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	383	....	383	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,549	..	2,549	..	..	..	..	....
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahâls*	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III. of Land and Revenue Regulation)	2,203	....	2,203	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	20	..	..	..	..	....
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV. of Land and Revenue Regulation)	280	....	280	..	..	..	..	..	1,982	....	1,982	....	..	....	..	..	25	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	237	..	237	..	..	..	..	....
16. Fees on separate accounts (Chapter V. of Land and Revenue Regulation)	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	517	....	317	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
17. Partition fees (Chapter VI. of Land and Revenue Regulation)	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
18. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation	....	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	....
19. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	46	....	46	..	..	..	..	..	3,247	....	3,247	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	156	..	156	..	..	..	..	....
Total	17,291	1,355	15,251	1,242	..	2,040	113	1,087	40,492	6,625	32,161	3,454	1,260	8,331	1,811	5,224	770	..	770	..	..	..	..	110	26,171	..	26,171	..	..	..	..	2,319
Total (both current and arrear)	18,646		16,493		..	2,153		..	47,017		35,615		1,260	10,142		..	770		770		..	.....		..	26,171		26,171		..	....		....
Percentage	.....		88·45		..	11·55		..	.....		75·75		2·68	21·57		..	....		100·00		..	.....		..	.....		100·00		..	....		....

TABLE II.—(*Continued.*)

Sources of Miscellaneous Land Revenue.	Darrang.								Nowgong.								Sibságar.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	21		22		23	24		25	26		27		28	29		30	31		32		33	34		35
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1 Revenue from elephant-*mahâls*	2,225	....	2,225	....	....	....	....	....	250	....	250	....	....	....	....	....	2,900	....	2,900	....	....	....	....	....
2. Royalty on elephants	5,400	....	5,200	....	....	200	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,800	....	1,643	....	....	157	....	....
3. Fisheries	6,075	....	6,075	....	....	....	....	2,377	14,023	....	14,023	....	....	....	....	902	24,944	37	24,120	37	200	624	....	1,131
4. Poll-tax	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5. House-tax	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	11,379	....	11,379	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
6. Lime-quarries	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
7. Stone-quarries	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	37	....	37	....	....	....	....
9. Salt-wells	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
10. Gold washing	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
11. Sales of Government estates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	910	....	910	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	700	....	700	....	....	....	....	....
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahâls*	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	616	....	616	....	....	....	....	....	57	....	57	....	....	....	....	....	1,011	....	1,011	....	....	....	....	....
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	79	....	79	....	....	....	....	....	342	....	342	....	....	....	....	....	90	....	90	....	....	....	....	....
16. Fees on separate accounts (Chapter V. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
17. Partition fees (Chapter VI. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
18. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5	....	5	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
19. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	306	....	306	....	....	....	....	....	19	....	19	....	....	....	....	....	324	....	324	....	....	....	....	....
Total	15,611	....	15,411	....	....	200	....	2,377	26,075	....	26,075	....	....	....	....	902	51,769	74	30,788	74	200	781	....	1,131
Total (both current and arrear)	15,611		15,411		....	200		....	26,075		26,075		....	.....		....	31,843		30,862		....	781		....
Percentage	.....		98·72		....	1·28		....	.....		100·00		.....	.....		.....	.....		96·92		·63	2·45		....

TABLE II.—(*Concluded.*)

Sources of Miscellaneous Land Revenue.	Lakhimpur.								Nága Hills.								Khási and Jaintia Hills.								Gáro Hills.								Total.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	36		37		38	39		40	41		42		43	44		45	46		47		48	49		50	51		52		53	54		55	56		57		58	59		60
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1. Revenue from elephant-*mahâls*.	5,850	..	5,850	....	..	....	..	..	1,250	362	1,250	362	..	..	..	..	1,722	..	1,692	..	..	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,097	362	16,067	362	..	30	..	..
2. Royalty on elephants.	6,400	..	6,400	....	..	....	..	900	1,900	1,200	1,900	700	..	..	500	..	5,450	100	5,450	..	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,450	1,300	22,093	700	..	357	600	900
3. Fisheries	4,854	..	4,854	....	..	....	..	1,155	165	..	165	..	..	..	..	63	2,921	..	2,921	..	..	..	..	914	905	..	905	..	..	..	..	348	1,10,115	7,628	99,417	4,593	1,410	10,498	1,825	15,409
4. Poll-tax	10,581	..	10,581	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,832	242	12,799	95	50	133	95	221
5. House-tax	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	33,583	3,031	30,044	3,031	..	3,539	..	..	25,626	182	25,503	178	4	123	..	..	34,480	76	34,474	73	..	6	3	..	1,16,440	3,336	1,12,708	3,52	4	3,732	7	..
6. Lime-quarries ..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,484	200	13,089	..	200	395	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,484	200	13,089	..	200	395	..	6
7. Stone-quarries ..	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	..	80	..	..	..	..	90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	..	80	..	..	..	..	90
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil.	21,260	..	21,260	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21,260	37	21,260	37	..	..	..	..
9. Salt-wells	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	..	23	..	..	..	..	..
10. Gold-washing ..	10	..	10	....		....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sales of Government estates.	..	..	....	....		....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	425	..	425	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	20	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,987	..	4,987	..	..	..	..	..
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahâls*.	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	2,619	..	2,619	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,531	..	6,531	..	..	..	..	..
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	232	..	232	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,267	..	3,267	..	..	..	..	..
16. Fees on separate accounts (Chapter V. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	317	..	317	..	..	..	..	..
17. Partition fees (Chapter VI. of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	..	....	....	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
19. Other miscellaneous items not specified above.	..	..	....	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	372	..	372	..	..	..	..	..	3,302	..	3,302	..	..	..	..	..	7,772	..	7,772	.	..	..	..	..
Total	52,231	..	52,231	....	..	....	..	2,055	36,898	4,593	33,359	4,093	..	3,539	500	63	49,675	482	49,127	178	204	548	100	1010	38,687	76	38,681	73	..	6	3	348	3,35,670	13,105	3,20,025	9,114	1,664	15,445	2,527	16,626
Total (both current and arrear)....	52,231		52,231		..	....		..	41,491		37,452		..	4,039		..	50,157		49,305		..	648		..	38,763		38,754		..	9		..	3,48,775		3,29,139		..	17,972		..
Percentage ..	....		100·00		..	....		..	....		90·27		..	9·73		..	.....		98·30		·41	1·29		..	.....		99·98		..	·02		..	....		94·37		·48	5·15		..

* Current ..... Rs. 200
Arrear ..... „ 1,464
Total ..... „ 1,664

(A)

TABLE III.

Suits under the Rent Laws in the Assam Valley Districts during the year 1888-89.

Description of suits.	Goálpára.				Kámrúp.				Darrang.				Nowgong.				Sibságar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1. Suits to recover arrears of rent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. „ to establish or contest right to enhancement, or abatement of rent, or to determine amount of rent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Suits regarding illegal exaction, duress, distraint, or demand.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Suits relating to ejectment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Suits regarding accounts, and by or against agent, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Suits to resume or assess land held exempt from rent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Suits not included in the above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Miscellaneous applications ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Execution cases	1	12	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	12	1
10. Appeals	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Total	1	12	12	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	13	1

TABLE IV.

Applications to Collectors for aid in distraint and to Civil Court Amins or other Officers for sale of distrained property in the Assam Valley Districts during the year 1888-89.

Districts.	Number of applications to Collectors for aid in distraint.	Number of applications to Civil Court Amins.			Compromised or withdrawn.	Sales of distrained property.	Cases in which security was given.	Remaining undisposed of.	Sales in execution of decrees held by				Local enquiries made by			
		From last year.	Filed this year.	Total.					Civil Court Amins.	Nazir.	Naib Nazir.	Bakshis.	Civil Court Amins.	Nazir.	Naib Nazir.	Bakshis.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Blank.										

TABLE V.

Cases in which Penalties were imposed for non-payment of rent in the Assam Valley Districts during the year 1888-89.

Districts.	Number of suits.							Number of suits in which penalty was imposed		Amount of penalty levied.	
	Decided for plaintiff.				Decided for defendant.						
	On merits.	*Ex parte.*	By admission.	Total.	On merits.	By default.	Total.	On plaintiff.	On defendant.	On plaintiff.	On defendant.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					Blank.						

TABLE

Proceedings under Chapter V. of the Assam

	Serial number.	Nature of demand for which sold.	Total sales.				Purchased for Government.		
			Number.	Government revenue.	Due for which sold.	Purchase-money.	Number.	Government revenue.	Purchase-money.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Whole estates.	1	Current and current arrear balance	329	Rs. 3,200 Talabana.	Rs. 2,915 758	Rs. 34,892	24	Rs. 121	Rs. 25
	2	Other arrears							
	3	Arrears of other estates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	4	Attached estates							
	5	Demands other than land revenue	18	58 Talabana..	44 27	1,346	....	....	....
		Total, A.	347	3,258 Talabana..	2,959 785	36,238	24	121	25
Shares separated.	6	Current and current arrear balance	3	29 Talabana..	14 4	2,201	....	....	....
	7	Other arrears							
	8	Arrears of other estates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	9	Attached estates							
	10	Demands other than land revenue							
		Total, B.	3	29 Talabana..	14 4	2,201	....	....	....
Rights and interests.	11	Arrears of other estates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	12	Demands other than land revenue							
		Total, C.	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
		Grand Total, D.	350	3,287 Talabana..	2,973 789	38,439	24	121	25
				Total....	3,762				

TABLE II.—Separate Accounts.

	Serial number.		This year.		Altogether to close of this year	
			Number.	Government revenue of the new account.	Number.	Government revenue of the new account.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs.		Rs.
Undivided shares.	1	Separate accounts opened	....	....	146	10,806
	2	Closed	....	....	....	....
	3	Remaining open at the close of the year	....	....	146	10,806
	4	Applications remaining for disposal	....	....	....	....
Specific shares.	5	Separate accounts opened	....	....	5,896	34,790
	6	Closed	....	....	....	....
	7	Remaining open at the close of the year	....	....	5,896	34,790
	8	Applications remaining for disposal	....	....	....	....
Complex shares.	9	Separate accounts opened	....	....	....	....
	10	Closed	....	....	....	....
	11	Remaining open at the close of the year	....	....	....	....
	11a	Separate account opened under Section 65 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.	491	1,378	894	2,469
	12	Applications remaining for disposal	518	....	....	....

VI.

Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886 in the district of Sylhet during the year 1888-89.

Balance in favour of defaulters.	Balance not covered by sale.	Deposits forfeited.		Number regained by proprietors.	Exempted from sale.			Number of appeals.	Sales annulled.			Recommended for annulment.		
		Number.	Amount forfeited.		Number.	Government revenue.	Amount due when exempted.		Number.	Government revenue.	Amount due when sold.	Number.	Government revenue.	Amount due when sold.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
31,548	329	53	2,016	17	1,024	2670	8,467	103	66	1,955	849	5	13	13
....	....	....	.. .	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1,276	1	3	121	2	245	865	22	1	9	68	16	....	....	....
32,824	330	56	2,137	19	1,269	3,535	8,489	104	75	2,023	865	5	13	13
2,183	....	....	....	....	1	24	9	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
2,183	....	....	....	....	1	24	9	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	
35,007	330	56	2,137	19	1,270	3,559	8,498	104	75	2,023	865	5	13	13

TABLE III.—ENTRIES IN COMMON AND SPECIAL REGISTERS.

Nature of registry.	Serial number.	Nature of tenure.	Letter of register.	Entries this year.						Applications remaining undisposed of.	Altogether to close of this year.					
				Parent estates affected.			Tenures registered.				Parent estates affected.			Tenures registered.		
				Number.	Area in pargana register.	Revenue.	Number.	Area.	Rent.		Number.	Area in register B.	Revenue.	Number.	Area.	Rent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					Acres.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.			Acres.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.
Common.	1	Modern	G.	13	76,790	14,763	13	3,759	1,502	1	47	175,099	29,679	47	5,614	2,929
	2	Buildings, &c.	I.	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	Total, Common	....	13	76,790	14,763	13	3,759	1,502	1	47	175,099	29,679	47	5,614	2,929
Special.	4	Istumrari.....	E.	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5	Ancient rent not fixed	F.													
	6	Modern.....	H.													
	7	Buildings, &c.	K.													
	8	Total, Special	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9	Grand Total	....	13	76,790	14,763	13	3,759	1,502	1	47	175,099	29,679	47	5,614	2,929

TABLE VII.

Business performed in the Revenue Department of the Deputy-Commissioners' Offices in the Plains Districts of Assam during the year 1888-89.

Description of business.	Cachar.				Sylhet.				Goálpára.				Kámrúp.				Darrang.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1. Settlements	168	248	308	108	235	464	366	333	....	11,704	11,704	.....	.....	161,385	161,385	.....	.....	101,743	101,743	.....
2. Divisions	....	....	....	....	5	2	2	5	....	.....	.....	.....	13	29	....	42	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Suits under the Rent Laws	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Applications under the Rent Laws	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Execution of decrees under the Rent Laws...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	12	12	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Notices of enhancement served by order of the Collector under Section 14, Act VIII. (B.C.) of 1869	....	....	....	....	19	64	64	19	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Notices of relinquishments served by order of the Collector under Section 20, Act VIII. (B.C.) of 1869	...	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
8. Mutations	4,094	3,550	5,811	1,833	4,334	9,113	10,088	3,359	15	29	44	.....	524	2,771	2,650	645	119	1,087	1,127	79
9. Excise cases	....	....	....	....	....	52	52	....	....	23	23	.....	.....	16	16	.....	.....	80	80	.....
10. Acquisition of lands and property for public purposes	10	12	19	3	538	764	251	1,051	1	2	3	.....	.....	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. Miscellaneous cases	60	186	190	56	186	716	704	198	3	1	3	1	491	1,188	1,227	452	997	4,661	5,021	637
12. Ditto ditto connected with Government estates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits	....	....	....	....	6	38	38	6	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14. Applications of all kinds under Chapter V. of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886	....	....	....	....	265	791	538	518	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15 Appeals of all sorts to Collectors	2	8	7	3	15	76	89	2	....	.....	.....	.....	4	11	13	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
16. Applications for purchase of leases of waste lands	....	....	....	....	8	3	1	10	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	3	6	2	7
17. Applications for commutations to revenue-free of existing grants	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18. Sales for arrears of revenue	....	....	....	....	464	350	682	132	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
19. Sales of leases of waste lands	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	5	1	5	1
20. Claims to money in deposit	1	4	5	....	16	213	175	54	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
21. Stamp cases	1	3	4	....	23	348	349	22	....	18	18	.....	.....	7	7	.....	.....	27	27	.....
Total	4,336	4,011	6,344	2,003	6,114	12,996	13,400	5,710	20	11,789	11,807	2	1,032	165,428	165,319	1,141	1,124	107,605	108,005	724

TABLE VII.—(*Concluded.*)

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibságar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
1. Settlements	.....	61,986	61,986	.....	.....	45,633	45,633	.....	.....	48,115	48,115	.....	403	431,278	431,240	441
2. Divisions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	31	2	47
3. Suits under the Rent Laws	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Applications under the Rent Laws	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Execution of decrees under the Rent Laws	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	13	13	1
6. Notices of enhancement served by order of the Collector under Section 11, Act VIII. (B.C.) of 1869	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	64	64	19
7. Notices of relinquishments served by order of the Collector under Section 20, Act VIII. (B.C.) of 1869	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
8. Mutations	264[a]	9,345	9,307	302	241	1,956	1,977	223	6	212	216	2	9,600[a]	27,163	30,320	6,443
9. Excise cases	.....	44	44	.....	.....	15	15	.....	.....	7	7	.....	.....	237	237	.....
10. Acquisition of lands and property for public purposes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	549	781	276	1,054
11. Miscellaneous cases	111	493	429	175	138	383	391	130	218	612	812	18	2,204	8,240	8,777	1,667
12. Ditto ditto connected with Government estates	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits	2	3	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	41	42	7
14. Applications of all kinds under Chapter V. of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	265	791	538	518
15. Appeals of all sorts to Collectors	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	22	18	6	.....	1	1	.....	23	118	128	13
16. Applications for purchase of leases of waste lands	.....	1	.....	1	14[a]	9	9	14	5	10	15	.....	30[a]	29	27	32
17. Ditto for commutations to revenue-free of existing grants.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18. Sales for arrears of revenue	.....	24	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	464	387	719	132
19. Sales of leases of waste lands	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	5	2	.....	5	2	3	5	14	13	6
20. Claims to money in deposit	.....	224	224	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	446	409	54
21. Stamp cases	.....	6	6	.....	.....	21	21	.....	.....	45	45	.....	24	475	477	22
Total	377[a]	72,126	72,024	479	398[a]	47,147	47,170	375	229	49,007	49,213	23	13,630[a]	470,109	472,282	10,457

[a] Revised figures.

TABLE VIII.

Lands taken up for Public Purposes, and Compensation paid for them during the year 1888-89.

Serial No.	Districts.	Purposes for which land was taken up.	Area of land taken.	Cash compensation paid, including other charges.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			A. R. P. Y.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Cachar	For widening Chatlahaor road ...	12 1 36 0	.....	Compensation not yet paid.
2		Ditto	9 0 3 0	.....	Ditto.
3		„ a road from Sonai to Banskandi.	34 1 22 0	1,798 10 5	The owners have not yet taken the balance, Rs. 74 15-2, which is held in deposit.
4		„ earth required to be taken for repairs to Sylhet-Cachar road.	8 0 11 0	110 14 11	The balance, Rs. 27-4-0, is still in deposit.
5		„ burying the dead animals of Silchar town.	1 0 25 0	65 1 4	
6		„ a road from Dhalcherra to Arrang-ghat.	2 1 12 0	.....	The owners have claimed no compensation for the land.
7		„ Fencha Cherra pound	1 0 0 0	.....	The amount of compensation has not been taken by the owners.
8		„ widening the Barnimukh road	3 0 2 0	189 8 1	
9		„ guard-house for the Forest Department.	0 0 27 0	.....	The owners have not called yet for compensation.
10		„ Lalabund-Lalakhal road and a tank in Vernerpur.	2 2 17 0	.....	Ditto.
11		„ a rest-house at Lakshmipur...	1 2 16 0	.....	Ditto.
12		„ the Sonai rest-house	0 2 2 0	.....	Ditto.
13		„ Nagdirgram outpost	1 0 34 0	.....	Exclusive of the amount of compensation awarded, Rs. 2 shall have to be paid as compensation for standing crops; payment has not been made up, as the owners have not yet called.
14		„ a cholera camp for jail.....	12 3 36 0	.....	The owners have not called.
15		„ extending Deputy-Commissioner's office compound and for building a dâk-bungalow in town Sylhet.	2 2 3 25¼	8,030 0 1	
16		„ a bridge over the public road of Chowhatta, town Sylhet.	0 0 6 26½	24 7 2	
17		„ a foot-path from the steamer godown to the public road at Fenchuganj.	0 0 22 12½	....	Compensation not yet paid.
18		„ extending the Churkhai road	44 2 8 0	2,858 5 4	The balance, Rs. 1,631-8-2, has not yet been paid.
19		„ Raghunath road (station Karimganj).	0 2 35 0	93 11 5	The balance, Rs. 45-3-9, has not yet been paid.
20		„ Natikhal road (ditto)	0 2 10 0	25 7 2	The balance, Rs. 84-11-5, has not yet been paid.
21		„ post-office site at Churkhai	0 0 22 0	20 12 3	
22	Sylhet	„ Shambhu Ságar (station Karimganj.)	2 1 35 0	514 7 11	
23		„ a road from Karimganj to Olivia road.	197 0 25 0	6,532 11 8	The balance, Rs. 9,431-14-4, has not yet been paid.
24		„ a road from Habiganj bázár to sub-divisional cutcherry.	15 0 32 8	1,581 2 9	
25		„ a road from Mirpur to Madhabpur road (Section II.).	28 0 22 0	1,595 1 11	
26		„ a road from Jagadispur to Dharmaghar road.	18 2 12 0	2,319 9 6	
27		„ a road from Baliali to Chandbhanga.	5 0 34 0	783 9 4	
28		„ a post-office site at Madhabpur.	0 1 15 0	.....	Value not determined.
29		„ a road from Bharaura to Hailhaor	8 1 35 0	731 9 0	
30		„ a tank at South Sylhet subdivisional station.	2 0 15 6¼	199 9 10	
31	Goálpára	„ Forest timber depôt at Bilasipára and diversion road between the 8th and 9th miles of the Jogighopa-Bijni road.	18 3 14 0	350 0 0	
32	Kámrúp	„ Gohainhat road and Palasbari tahsil cutcherry.	3 0 11 0	.....	
33	Nowgong.....	„ site of the school at Puranigudam.	0 1 24 0	.....	
34	Sibságar.....	„ Jorhát State Railway	2 1 38 0	45 0 0	
		Total	441 2 23 10	27,869 12 1	

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1897-98.

132917

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N.B.—For explanation of vernacular terms used in reports, *see* "Glossary of Vernacular Terms ordinarily used in the Province of Assam," published in 1878.

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LIBRARY

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1897-98.

SECTION I.

WEATHER, CROPS, AND PRICES.

Rainfall.

1. Taking the province as a whole, the rainfall of the year was much higher than that of the preceding year. In the month of April, the rainfall was much below the average in most districts, and in May it was above the average. The months of June, July and August were conspicuous for heavy rains, and December was remarkably dry. Unusually scanty rain fell in March 1898. Statement No. I in the Appendix gives the rainfall in inches registered at the headquarters of each district and subdivision and at Cherrapunji during 1897-98, and compares it with that of the three years immediately preceding, and with the average rainfall of three periods of five years. In ten out of the nineteen plains stations and in the stations of the Naga Hills district, the rainfall of the year was less than the average of the five years ending 1897-98.

The Commissioner of the Assam Valley Districts remarks as follows regarding the amount and distribution of rainfall in his division:

> The rainfall of the division generally was considerably above that of the previous year, of the ten years ending 1896-97 and of the five years ending 1897-98. It was fairly well distributed in the districts of Darrang and Sibsagar. The rainfall in the Lakhimpur district was well distributed and sufficient for all crops, with the exception of mustard and tea. There was insufficient rain in the months of December and January for the mustard crop, and planters complained of the distribution of the rainfall being unfavourable for tea. In Nowgong, the deficient rainfall from April to August had an injurious effect on the rice crop, and still more on tea. Scarcity of water was felt in most parts of this district till August, when a high flood passed over it. In Kamrup, there was no rain in December 1897, while there was an unusually high fall from May to September. In Goalpara the heaviest fall was in May.

The following is a summary of the reports of the Deputy Commissioners of other districts on this subject:

Cachar.—The rainfall record of the year under report compares favourably with that of the preceding year. As in ordinary years, the months of June, July and August were conspicuous for heavy rains, and December and January were dry months.

Sylhet.—The most noticeable feature in this year's figures is the low rainfall during March 1898. Otherwise the rainfall was normal.

Naga Hills.—This year also the rainfall was scanty, causing a water famine in the station of Kohima at one time. Rain during the months of June and July, when it was much needed, was far below the average.

Khasi and Jaintia Hills.—There was an uneven distribution of rainfall in the district. In the first-half of the year more than the usual amount of rain was received.

Garo Hills.—The rains set in by the end of April, and there was much rain during May and June.

The list below groups the different subdivisions according to the average rainfall for the five years ending 1897-98 :

(1) Below 50 inches—

Nil.

(2) 50 inches and under 75 inches—

Nowgong.	Tezpur.
Gauhati.	Haflong.
Mangaldai.	Kohima.

(3) 75 inches and under 100 inches—

Shillong.	Mokokchang.
Jorhat.	Dhubri.
Goalpara.	Habiganj.
Golaghat.	Barpeta.

Sibsagar.

(4) 100 inches and under 150 inches—

South Sylhet.	North Lakhimpur.
Dibrugarh.	Silchar.
Hailakandi.	Jowai.
Tura.	Karimganj.

(5) 150 inches and under 200 inches—

North Sylhet.	Sunamganj.

(6) 200 inches and over—

Cherrapunji.

A map illustrating by colours the rainfall of the year throughout the province is annexed.

Storms and floods.

2. In the plains portion of the Garo Hills damage was done to crops by continued floods following the earthquake of the 12th June 1897. The floods there did not subside till September. In Cachar no abnormal floods occurred during the year, but the heavy rains of June, July and August submerged the low-lying parts of the district ; and as the water did not subside till September, the paddy cultivation in those tracts was affected to an appreciable extent. Severe gales passed over Cachar in April and May, but they did no damage to crops. The district was unusually free from hailstorms during the year. In Sylhet, high floods in August and September greatly damaged the early rice crop.

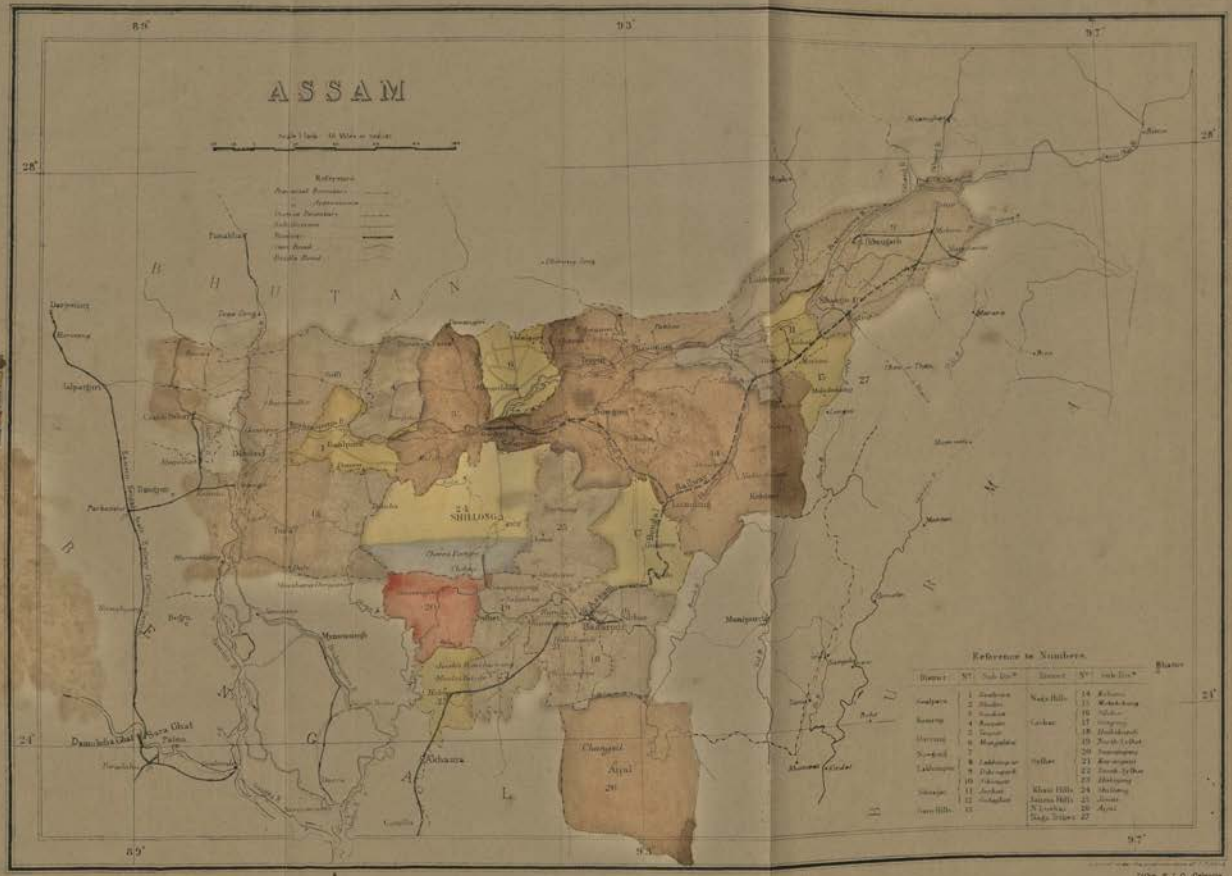
In the Brahmaputra Valley there were violent storms in all the districts, except in Kamrup and Lakhimpur, and considerable damage was done to houses, trees, and standing crops. A strong hurricane swept over the Goalpara subdivision in March 1898, accompanied by hail, and some buildings were entirely unroofed. In Nowgong a storm passed over the Roha tahsil, causing serious damage to houses and trees all round. There were also heavy floods in all the districts of the valley, except Lakhimpur. Two unusually high floods passed over the Nowgong district, one in August and the other in September. The first flood chiefly affected the Chapari mauzas. The second was much more severe, and affected larger areas. It lasted for a long time, and did serious damage to rice crops. In the district of Goalpara the damage done by floods was severe. A portion of the district was submerged, men and cattle suffered much, and the sites of many villages had to be changed.

Regarding these floods the Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts, writes :

No ascertained reason can be given for the high floods, but the generally accepted view is that they were due to the silting up of the river beds by the earthquake combined with a sinking of the river banks and consequent overflow.

In many parts of Kamrup, especially in the Barpeta subdivision, the earthquake was immediately followed by a sudden and great rise of water from the rivers, which almost entirely destroyed the early rice crop.

MAP ILLUSTRATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE RAINFALL IN THE SEVERAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE PROVINCE OF ASSAM.



Explanation.

Subdivisions in which the rainfall for the year ending 1897-98 is :—

(a) 50 inches and under 75 inches.
(b) 75 " " 100 "
(c) 100 " " 150 "
(d) 150 " " 200 "
(e) 200 inches and over.

Note.—Cherrapunji, although not a subdivision, is shown separately.

Subdivision.	Rainfall during 1897-98.
Silchar ...	115·76
Hailakandi ...	101·44
Haflong ...	88·45
Karimganj ...	120·02
South Sylhet ...	113·77
North Sylhet ...	140·46
Habiganj ...	87·77
Sunamganj ...	164·48
Dhubri ...	102·95
Goalpara ...	90·40
Barpeta ...	104·71
Gauhati ...	61·19
Mangaldai ...	92·09
Tezpur ...	66·48
Nowgong ...	53·49
Golaghat ...	102·40
Jorhat ...	90·28
Sibsagar ...	105·72
North Lakhimpur ...	83·80
Dibrugarh ...	105·93
Mokokchung ...	81·52
Kohima ...	58·37
Jowai ...	142·32
Shillong ...	84·96
Cherrapunji ...	457·43
Tura ...	128·01
Aijal ...	74·76

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Additions to 1897.

Litho., S. I. O., Calcutta.

(a) Nowgong, Kohima, Gauhati, Tezpur, Aijal.
(b) Mokokchung, Shillong, Habiganj, Goalpara, Mangaldai, Jorhat, Haflong.
(c) Hailakandi, Golaghat, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Barpeta, Sibsagar, South Sylhet, Silchar, Karimganj, Tura, North Lakhimpur, Jowai, North Sylhet.
(d) Sunamganj.
(e) Cherrapunji.

A. S. P. O. (Agri.) No. 35—250—3-12-98.

The highest point reached by the Brahmaputra river at Gauhati in 1897 was 29·10 above zero on the 9th and 10th September 1897. In the previous ten years the highest points were as follows:

1887	...	...	...	26·50	September 10th.
1888	...	...	...	27·80	July 30th and 31st.
1889	...	...	...	29·70	August 3rd.
1890	...	...	...	28·80	September 5th.
1891	...	...	...	25·90	July 11th.
1892	...	...	...	26·50	„ 13th.
1893	...	...	...	28·80	August 17th, 18th, and 19th.
1894	...	...	...	27·30	September 25th.
1895	...	...	...	28·70	July 28th.
1896	...	...	...	29·00	September 24th.

The maximum flood point was, therefore, higher than in all the years mentioned, except 1889; but still it was not sufficiently high to account for the heavy floods without the addition of some special reason, such as the silting up of the river beds or the sinking of the banks of rivers, and there can be no doubt that both of these effects were produced by the earthquake. The lowest point registered at Gauhati in 1897 was 1·55 below zero on the 19th February 1897. The lowest points registered in the previous ten years were as follows:

1887	...	...	...	...	— 2·10	February 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd.
1888	...	...	...	...	— 6·30	February 9th.
1889	...	...	...	...	— 4·08	„ 22nd.
1890	...	...	...	...	— 3·90	„ 20th and 21st.
1891	...	...	...	...	— 2·50	„ 27th.
1892	...	...	...	...	— 3·60	March 16th, 17th, and 19th
1893	...	...	...	...	— 0·98	February 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th.
1894	...	...	...	...	+ 4·80	February 10th, 12th, and 13th.
1895	...	...	...	...	+ 0·03*	December 30th and 31st.
1896	...	...	...	...	— ·09	28th to 31st January, 1st, 2nd, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 29th February, and 1st to 4th March.

* Corrected figures.

Harvests.

3. In Sylhet the winter rice was fairly good, being above the average in a large part of the district, but in low lands, the crop partially failed, being overspread with sands thrown up by the earthquake of the 12th June 1897. Early rice suffered, except in South Sylhet, from the high floods of August and September, the average outturn being only 9 annas. The *boro* crop in Sunamganj yielded a bumper harvest.

In Cachar, early and late rice yielded a bumper crop, the weather being generally favourable to it. In the Naga Hills, the rice crop was a very poor one owing to the short rainfall in June and July. In the Garo Hills, great damage was done to the rice crop by the earthquake of the 12th June, and consequently the outturn was very poor. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, the rice crop was a fair one. In the districts of the Assam Valley, owing to the favourable weather in the early part of the year, the outturn of both early and late rice, though more or less affected by the earthquake of the 12th June 1897 was up to the average, except in Nowgong and Kamrup. *Matikalai* (*Phaseolus radiatus*) was not successful except in Darrang and the sadr subdivision of the Lakhimpur district, and mustard was a partial failure in all the districts of the division, except in Darrang and Sibsagar, the cause of this was the late sowing, which had to be put off till the subsidence of floods. The outturn of sugarcane was good in the Cachar and Lakhimpur districts, and in all other districts it was poor. In the Cachar district the cotton crop was a fair one. Both in the Jaintia Hills and the Garo Hills

the cotton crop was greatly damaged by the earthquake and landslips caused thereby. The weather was not favourable for the tea crop. The prolonged drought from October 1896 to March 1897 retarded the growth of the young leaf, so that plucking operations were greatly delayed.

4. *District crop statement.*—Statement No. II-A in the Appendix gives details of the areas under the various crops and the fallow areas in the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, excluding the permanently-settled portion of Goalpara.

Crop statement.

The figures below give the total area cropped in those districts during 1897-98, as compared with the figures of the preceding year :

	1897-98.	1896-97.
	Acres.	Acres.
Rice	1,280,035	1,305,463
Mustard	155,305	176,488
Sugarcane	15,984	18,921
Other crops (including *basti*)	461,350	479,854
Total crops	1,912,674	1,980,726
Deduct—Double-cropped area	161,565	208,892
Net cropped area	1,751,109	1,771,834

The decrease in the net area cropped is due to the late subsidence of floods and damage to land caused by sand deposits. The area under mustard and sugarcane also decreased owing to the same cause.

There was a decrease in the area under rice in Goalpara, Kamrup, and Nowgong.

Cadastral crop statement.—Statement No. II-B in the Appendix shows the areas under the various crops and the fallow areas in the cadastrally-surveyed portions of the province. The following statement compares the areas in the two years, 1896—98 :

	1897-98.	1896-97.
	Acres.	Acres.
Rice	1,426,734	1,369,401
Mustard	132,437	147,049
Sugarcane	19,006	17,317
Other crops (including *basti*)	509,327	499,745
Total crops	2,087,504	2,033,512
Deduct—Double-cropped area	194,150	199,912
Net area cropped	1,893,354	1,833,600

Cachar shows a large increase owing to complete statistics having been obtained this year by the cadastral survey of the district. In the Jaintia Parganas the decrease in the cropped areas is attributed to deposits of sand by the earthquake. There was a considerable increase of area under rice in the Pratabgarh and Egarasati parganas owing to favourable weather. Fluctuations in the cropped areas in the Assam Valley districts have been explained above.

5. The average price of common rice at different district and subdivisional head-quarters stations in the Surma and Brahmaputra Valleys during the past five years, is given in the statement below :

Prices.

Station.	Quantity obtainable for Re. 1.									
	1893-94.		1894-95.		1895-96.		1896-97.		1897-98.	
1	2		3.		4		5		6	
	Srs.	c.	Srs.	c.	Srs.	c.	Srs.	c	Srs.	c.
Cachar	8	0	8	9	11	6	8	10	6	14
Karimganj	8	13	9	7	12	5	9	6	9	1
South Sylhet	8	15	11	15	15	11	10	2	10	4
North Sylhet	9	11	12	12	15	12	10	1	9	9
Habiganj	9	13	13	11	16	12	10	5	10	3
Sunamganj	9	13	12	5	16	2	9	5	8	5
Dhubri	10	2	11	6	14	5½	9	14	9	1
Goalpara	10	11	11	8	12	15	9	15	8	13
Barpeta	11	3	13	6	16	8	10	6	8	11
Gauhati	11	8	12	8	16	0	10	8	9	1
Mangaldai	15	3	13	9	17	4	13	15	11	7
Tezpur	10	15	9	0	13	0	12	8	8	8
Nowgong	10	0	10	15	10	4	9	7	7	8
Golaghat	10	0	10	11	10	0	9	14	9	6
Jorhat	12	4	10	13	11	4	10	4	8	6
Sibsagar	13	0	10	11	11	5	10	3	9	15
North Lakhimpur	11	4	11	0	12	0	12	0	11	0
Dibrugarh	10	6	10	4	12	6	9	14	8	10

In the Surma Valley, though a good crop was reaped, considerable exports to Bengal kept back prices to a large extent. The high price of rice in Bengal and other parts of India also tended to cause a rise in the prices of rice as well as of other food-grains.

Prices rose at all the subdivisions in the Assam Valley during the year. The rise in Lakhimpur and Sibsagar was mainly due to the large demand by tea-planters for local rice, for which they make large advances, and in the remaining four districts, partly to the scarcity prevailing in other parts of India, and partly to the effects of the earthquake and the floods following it.

A statement showing the average prices of *matikalai* (*Phaseolus radiatus*), mustard, and raw sugar in district and subdivisional stations in the Brahmaputra Valley during the last two years, is given in Appendix III to the Report.

Matikalai and raw sugar rose in price in all the districts and subdivisional stations, as compared with the previous year, with the exception of the Lakhimpur district and the sadr subdivisions of Kamrup and Sibsagar, where the price of raw sugar fell. Mustard did not vary much in price, as compared with the previous year.

SECTION II.

COLLECTIONS OF LAND REVENUE.

Number of permanently-settled estates.

6. The number of permanently-settled estates on the revenue roll at the end of the year was 49,920, against 49,932 on the 31st March 1897; the decrease of 12 in the number of such estates occurred in the district of Sylhet, where there were 49,900 permanently-settled estates at the end of the year. In Goalpara and the Garo Hills, the only other districts with a permanent settlement, there was no change in the number of these estates, *viz.*, 19 in the former district and one in the latter. The decrease in Sylhet is due to the transfer of 8 estates to the class "temporarily-settled" owing to their purchase by Government at sales for arrears of revenue, and to the removal from the revenue roll of four estates, the entire area of which was acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway.

Number of temporarily-settled estates.

7. The total number of temporarily-settled revenue-paying estates on the roll at the close of the year was 763,860, against 743,654 at the end of the preceding year. The details of each district are given below:

Division.	District.	Number of estates.		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
		1896-97.	1897-98.			Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Surma Valley ...	Cachar	11,790	11,954	164	...	1·39	...
	Sylhet	53,203	55,823	2,620	...	4·92	...
Brahmaputra Valley.	Goalpara	16,512	17,509	997	...	6·04	...
	Kamrup	175,123	184,583	9,460	...	5·40	...
	Darrang	112,074	116,932	4,858	...	4·33	...
	Nowgong	132,375	126,440	...	5,935	...	4·48
	Sibsagar	171,081	178,067	6,986	...	4·08	...
	Lakhimpur	64,281	65,049	768	...	1·19	...
Hill districts ...	Naga Hills	371	371	...	...	...	...
	Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	1,709	1,691	...	18	...	1·05
	Garo Hills	5,135	5,441	306	...	5·96	...
	Total	743,654	763,860	26,159	5,953	...	...
	Net Increase	...	...	+20,206		+2·72	

In Cachar the increase of 164 estates resulted from the addition of 169 and the removal of 5 estates. The 169 estates added were all newly settled. Of the estates removed, 4 were relinquished by the settlement-holders and 1 reverted to Government, there being no bid for it when put up to sale for arrears of revenue. In Sylhet the number of estates held on annual tenure increased by 2,672, owing to the issue of annual leases under Section III of the Settlement Rules for lands newly brought under cultivation and lands found to have been cultivated without lease, and partly to the splitting up of large *mahals* into smaller ones according to occupation; periodic leases show a net decrease of 53. The settlement of 69 estates was cancelled for arrears of revenue, 15 were newly settled and 1 new estate was created by partition.

In all districts of the Assam Valley, except Nowgong, the number of estates increased during the year, due partly to ordinary extensions of cultivation and partly to the more accurate record of occupants due to the progress of cadastral survey. The heavy falling-off of 5,935 estates in Nowgong, with a corresponding decrease of revenue, has lately been the subject of a special enquiry. It will suffice here to remark that the decrease is mainly due to the ravages of *kalá-ázár*

8. The current land revenue demand of the province rose from Rs. 55,11,699 in 1896-97 to Rs. 55,60,903 in 1897-98, having increased by Rs. 49,204, or ·89 per cent. The following table gives details for each district :

Current demand.

District.	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.			Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Cachar	...	...	3,51,913	3,56,116	3,51,913	3,56,116	4,203	...	1·19	...
Sylhet	3,66,287	3,65,889	3,24,712	3,37,757	6,90,999	7,03,646	12,647	...	1·83	...
Total Surma Valley	3,66,287	3,65,889	6,76,625	6,93,873	10,42,912	10,59,762	16,850	...	1·62	...
Goalpara	11,411	11,411	95,563	96,398	1,06,974	1,07,809	835	...	·78	...
Kamrup	...	...	13,53,568	13,59,990	13,53,568	13,59,990	6,422	...	·47	...
Darrang	...	...	6,74,724	6,89,444	6,74,724	6,89,444	14,720	...	2·18	...
Nowgong	...	...	6,12,103	5,70,058	6,12,103	5,70,058	...	42,045	...	6·87
Sibsagar	...	...	12,52,146	12,81,246	12,52,146	12,81,246	29,100	...	2·32	...
Lakhimpur	...	...	4,35,677	4,59,829	4,35,677	4,59,829	24,152	...	5·54	...
Total Brahmaputra Valley ...	11,411	11,411	44,23,781	44,56,965	44,35,192	44,68,376	75,229	42,045	...	...
Net increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	+33,184		+·75	
Naga Hills	...	...	1,778	1,836	1,778	1,836	58	...	3·26	...
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	...	...	8,842	8,914	8,842	8,914	72	...	·81	...
Garo Hills	12	12	22,963	22,003	22,975	22,015	...	960	...	4·18
Total Hills districts ...	12	12	33,583	32,753	33,595	32,765	130	960	...	...
Net decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—830		—2·47	
Grand total	3,77,710	3,77,312	51,33,989	51,83,591	55,11,699	55,60,903	92,209	43,005	...	...
Net increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	+49,204		+·89	

Explanation of increase and decrease in revenue.

9. *Cachar.*—The increase of Rs. 4,203 is accounted for below :

	Rs.
Demand for 1896-97	3,51,913
Deduct—On account of estates removed from the roll ...	765
Total	3,51,148
Add—Increase due to—	
(1) New settlements	2,873
(2) Assessment at progressive rates	2,095
Total	3,56,116
Net increase	4,203

Sylhet.—The current demand of each class of estates in this district for the past two years is given below :

Class of estates.	Current demand.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1896-97.	1897-98.		
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Permanently-settled estates ...	3,66,287	3,65,889	...	398
II.—Temporarily-settled estates—				
(*a*) Jaintia	1,45,613	1,43,941	...	1,672
(*b*) Hakaluki	1,097	1,428	331	...
(*c*) Pratabgarh	45,807	49,147	3,340	...
(*d*) Other parganas	1,32,195	1,43,241	11,046	...
Total II	3,24,712	3,37,757	14,717	1,672
Grand total	6,90,999	7,03,646	14,717	2,070
Net increase	...	...	+12,647	

The decrease of Rs. 398 in the demand of the permanently-settled estates is due to (1) the purchase of 8 estates by Government at sales for arrears of revenue, (2) removal from the revenue roll of 4 estates (as mentioned in paragraph 6 above), and (3) abatement of land revenue granted to certain estates which were partly acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway.

The decrease in the Jaintia Parganas is not a real decrease. In the previous year the demand reported includes the increase due to enhanced rates on resettlement, not the whole increase, but so much of the increase as fell due in the instalment payable in September 1896. This amounted to about Rs. 6,800, but it was subsequently decided that the new settlement should not take effect till 1st April 1898. Consequently the year under report would have shown an apparent decrease of about Rs. 6,800, but this has been largely counterbalanced by assessment of new cultivation, so that the actual decrease shown is Rs. 1,672.

In Pratabgarh and other parganas there were increases in the demand due to new settlements and progressive enhancements of revenue of waste land grants.

In the Brahmaputra Valley, there was a net increase of Rs. 33,184 over the demand of the previous year. The following statement gives details of the increase and decrease in each district and of the variations in the demand of the different classes of estates :

District.	Estates annually settled at full rates (*khiraj*).	Estates periodically settled at full rates (*khiraj*).	Estates settled at half-rates (*nisf-khiraj*).	Special settlements.	Town lands.	Waste land settlements.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara ...	+ 817	...	...	+ 16	+ 2	...	+ 835
Kamrup ...	−1,02,132	+1,08,393	...	+ 152	+ 5	+ 4	+ 6,422
Darrang ...	+ 12,326	− 1,763	...	− 3	− 7	+ 4,167	+ 14,720
Nowgong ...	− 54,472	+ 6,293	...	− 329	+ 76	+ 6,387	− 42,045
Sibsagar ...	− 2,399	+ 28,407	...	− 77	− 46	+ 3,215	+ 29,100
Lakhimpur ...	+ 13,181	− 1,602	...	+8,637	−248	+ 4,184	+ 24,152
Total	−132,679	+1,39,728	...	+8,396	−218	+17,957	+ 33,184

Goalpara.—This district shows an increase of Rs. 835 in revenue, chiefly due to the extension of cultivation, to the extension of cadastral survey in the Sidli Duar, and to an influx of immigrants in Sidli.

Kamrup.—The increase of Rs. 6,422 in the revenue demand of this district was due to the extension of cultivation and alterations in the classifications of lands.

Darrang.—There was an increase of Rs. 14,720 in this district owing mainly to extensions of cultivation and to continued cadastral survey.

Nowgong.—This district shows a decrease in the demand amounting to Rs. 42,045. Mr. D. H. Lees, Assistant Commissioner, who was placed on special duty during the cold weather of 1897-98 to enquire into the circumstances of the cultivators in the tracts affected by the earthquake and subsequent floods, was also instructed to enquire and report with regard to the causes of the continuous decrease of settled area and revenue demand in the Nowgong district since 1893-94. His report on the subject shows that while these unsatisfactory results are due mainly to natural causes, *viz.*, the epidemic of *kalá-ázár*, exceptional drought in 1895-96 and 1896-97, and the earthquake and floods of 1897-98, they have also been caused to some extent by defects in the administration and supervision of the land revenue system of the district, and in particular by the improper exclusion from settlement of land which was occupied and cultivated. Steps are being taken to remedy these defects.

Sibsagar.—In Sibsagar there was a satisfactory increase in the land revenue demand owing to the extension, of ordinary cultivation and the settlement of waste lands taken up for the cultivation of tea.

Lakhimpur.—The increase of Rs. 24,152 in this district was due chiefly to the extension of cultivation, and also partly to the assessment to land revenue of the tea lands on either side of the Makum Branch of the Dibru-Sadiya Railway, the rent-free term of which expired on the 31st March 1897.

Garo Hills.—In this district reductions in the rates of assessment were allowed in case of certain villages which suffered most seriously in consequence of the earthquake of the 12th June, and this accounts for the decrease in the demand for the year.

Arrear demand.

10. The arrear demand on 1st April 1897, as shown in last year's report, was Rs. 2,46,016. Subsequent proceedings and enquiries have resulted in certain additions and reductions, which bring the corrected arrear demand up to Rs. 2,54,135. Details are given below:

District.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1897.	Changes made in the arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1897.		Arrear demand on 1st April 1897, as finally ascertained.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	14,730	495	1	15,224
Sylhet	11,025	548	4,343	7,230
Goalpara	32	106	...	138
Kamrup	19,614	77	...	19,691
Darrang	17,614	...	...	17,614
Nowgong	95,878	982	...	96,860
Sibsagar	77,298	4,157	...	81,455
Lakhimpur	8,011	5,308	...	13,319
Naga Hills	...	...	...	...
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	856	790	...	1,646
Garo Hills	958	...	...	958
Total	2,46,016	12,463	4,344	2,54,135

The additions in the Surma Valley were due to the assessment of certain temporarily-settled estates with retrospective effect. The reduction of Re. 1 in Cachar represents the amount of revenue assessed on an estate since removed from the revenue roll. In Sylhet, the reduction of Rs. 4,342 is said to be due to the re-adjustment of

revenue of the Jaintia Parganas consequent on the resettlement taking effect from 1st April 1898 instead of 1st April 1896, and the balance, Re. 1, represents the difference between the *tauzi jama** and actual assessment of a *khas mahal*.

In the Assam Valley the amount added in the course of the year was chiefly on account of revenue of concealed and excess lands discovered by test measurement, and of lands which, by accident, escaped assessment at the regular and supplementary settlements.

11. The total demand, collections, remissions, and balances of each district are given in the following statement:

Total demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

District.	Demand.	Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	3,71,340	3,56,041	...	15,299
Sylhet	7,10,876	6,69,499	658	40,719
Goalpara	1,07,947	1,07,835	9	103
Kamrup	13,79,681	13,54,737	1,326	23,618
Darrang	7,07,058	6,77,937	604	28,517
Nowgong	6,66,918	5,23,006	1,951	1,41,961
Sibsagar	13,62,701	12,32,689	2,067	1,27,945
Lakhimpur	4,73,148	4,31,511	19	41,618
Naga Hills	1,836	1,826	...	10
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	10,560	8,127	...	2,433
Garo Hills	22,973	19,032	457	3,484
Total	58,15,038	53,82,240	7,091	4,25,707

The total demand, including corrected arrears, was Rs. 58,15,038; of this amount Rs. 53,82,240, or 92·55 per cent., were realized during the year and Rs. 7,091, or ·12 per cent., remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,25,707, or 7·32 per cent., on 1st April 1898. The outstanding balance was very large compared with other years, and is particularly unsatisfactory in those districts, such as Sibsagar and Lakhimpur, which were not affected by the unfavourable conditions of the year. In Cachar the balance outstanding at the end of the year was slightly in excess of that at the close of the last year, being Rs. 15,299, against Rs. 14,730. In Sylhet, the collections on account of permanently-settled estates were good; there was, however, a heavy falling-off, mainly in the Jaintia Parganas, in the collections on account of temporarily-settled estates, which is attributed partly to the effects of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897 and subsequent floods, and partly to a series of bad harvests preceding the earthquake in the Jaintia Parganas.

The balance outstanding at the close of the year in the Brahmaputra Valley was heavier than in the preceding year, amounting to 7·74 per cent. of the total demand, against 4·68 per cent. at the end of 1896-97.

The outstanding balance shown against the Goalpara district was due from certain raiyats in the Bijni tahsil, the tahsildar of which died at the close of the year.

In Kamrup, the balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 23,618, against Rs. 19,614 at the end of 1896-97, and Rs. 59,834 at the end of 1895-96. The result of the collections was satisfactory, considering the peculiar disasters of the year in that district, and was due greatly to the efficient supervision of the collecting agency by the Deputy Commissioner.

The balance outstanding in the Darrang district was Rs. 28,517, against Rs. 17,614 at the end of the previous year. No particular reason has been assigned by the Deputy Commissioner for the outstanding balance in his district.

The outstanding balance in Nowgong was larger than in any other district of the valley since 1894. The circumstances of this district are and have been for some years

* The *tauzi jama* is the revenue assessed upon an estate either at the time of the original settlement or at the time of revision, and it remains till it is altered at the next enquiry. This demand is often fictitious, *e.g.*, in the case of a permanently-settled estate bought in by Government at a sale for arrears of revenue. Such an estate, though unsettled, retains, until another settlement, as the *tauzi jama*, the amount of revenue assessed on it at the permanent settlement.

exceptional. The same causes that are at work to reduce the demand and area under settlement will account for the outstanding balance. The collections in the Sibsagar district were most unsatisfactory, the balance outstanding at the close of the year being Rs. 1,41,961, against Rs. 77,298 at the end of 1896-97, there seems to be justification for this bad result. It is ascribed to changes in the *personnel* of tahsildars and mauzadars.

Of the balance of Rs. 41,618 in the Lakhimpur district, the Dibrugarh tahsil is alone responsible for Rs. 27,037. The Deputy Commissioner attributes this unsatisfactory result to the apathy and negligence of the tahsildar. It will have to be considered whether an officer of such qualifications can be retained in his post.

The balances shown against the districts of the Khasi and Jaintia and the Garo Hills are said to be due to the effects of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897 and the sickness which ensued, and also to partial failure of crops in case of the latter district.

The outstanding balance at the close of the year had been reduced by the 14th October 1898 to Rs. 1,70,602, the details of which are given below :*

District.	Amount. Rs.
Cachar ...	1,102
Sylhet ...	30,967
Goalpara	10
Kamrup	8,714
Darrang	8,242
Nowgong	82,343
Sibsagar	26,360
Lakhimpur	11,456
Garo Hills	1,408
Total ...	1,70,602

Forecast *versus* demand.

12. In the forecast of revenue for the six years ending 1901-02 submitted to the Government of India, the demand for the year under report was estimated at Rs. 56,07,730. The actual demand of the year amounted to Rs. 55,60,903, of which Rs. 52,04,468 were realized during the year. At the time of framing the forecast it was expected that the resettlement of the Jaintia Parganas in Sylhet would take effect from 1st April 1896, in which case the demand for 1897-98 would have included the amount of the enhancement resulting from that settlement. Under subsequent orders the settlement in question took effect from the 1st April 1898, so that the enhanced demand did not fall due till after the close of the year under report.

Remissions.

13. Remissions were allowed to the extent of Rs. 7,091, against Rs. 4,063 in the preceding year. In Sylhet Rs. 658 were remitted partly as irrecoverable arrears, and partly on account of wrong assessment of certain estates in the Jaintia Parganas.

In Goalpara Rs. 9 were remitted as irrecoverable in consequence of deaths and migrations.

In the Kamrup district the amount remitted came to Rs. 1,326, the details of which are given below :

	Rs.
Irrecoverable arrears	518
Annulment of settlements	687
Wrong assessment	117
Land taken up by the Assam-Bengal Railway	4
Total	1,326

* The figures for each district show realizations up to different dates, of which the latest is 14th October.

In Darrang and Nowgong Rs. 604 and Rs. 1,951, respectively, were remitted, the details of which are given below:

	Rs.
Darrang—	
Irrecoverable arrears	581
Revenue of a plot of land in the Tezpur subdivision acquired by the Police Department	23
Total	604
Nowgong—	
Irrecoverable arrears	1,839
Wrong assessment	112
Total	1,951

The amount remitted in Sibsagar was Rs. 2,057 on account of irrecoverable arrears. In the Lakhimpur district the amount remitted was only Rs. 19, due to remission of revenue on account of two plots of land acquired for public purposes.

Charges for collection of Government revenue.
(a) Surma Valley.

14. The following statement shows the particulars and cost of collections in the different tahsils of the Surma Valley:

Name of tahsil.	Amount collected within the year.					Cost of collection.	Percentage of cost to amounts collected.
	Land revenue.	Local rates.	Fishery revenue.	House and poll-tax.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Cachar—							
Sadr	198,201	18,256	3,642	950	2,21,049	5,017	2·27
Hailakandi	96,210	8,488	...	150	1,04,848	3,729	3·56
Katigora	60,185	4,216	2,586	186	67,173	2,534	3·77
Total for Cachar	354,596	30,960	6,228	1,286	3,93,070	11,280	2·87
Sylhet—							
Sadr	98,127	41,138	3,388	...	1,42,653	3,372	2·36
Habiganj	1,36,824	56,288	11,784	707	2,05,603	3,348	1·63
South Sylhet	1,31,761	35,977	1,574	465	1,69,777	3,262	1·92
Karimganj	1,46,854	43,666	4,757	788	1,96,065	3,132	1·60
Sunamganj	42,692	36,715	6,372	...	85,779	968	1·13
Jaintia ... Sadr	94,251	5,893	7,558	...	1,07,702	3,845	3·57
Jaintia ... Kanairghat ...	61,814	3,801	786	14	66,415	2,488	3·75
Hakaluki	2,438	131	11,778	...	14,347	650	4·53
Total for Sylhet	7,14,761	2,23,609	47,597	1,974	9,88,341	21,065	2·13
Grand total for Surma Valley ...	10,69,357	2,54,569	54,225	3,260	13,81,411	32,345	2·34

As compared with the previous year, the variations in the percentages of cost of collections to the amounts collected were but little. The decrease of the percentage in the two tahsils of the Jaintia Parganas was chiefly due to the entertainment of a smaller number of temporary peons, and that in the Hakaluki tahsil to an increase in the amount collected.

(*b*) Brahmaputra Valley.

The statements below show the charges for collection in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley for the past two years and the proportion which the cost of collection bears to the amount collected:

I.—Collections in Tahsils.

District.	Collection by Tahsildars.		Other Collections.		Total.		Charges on collection by Tahsildars.						Percentage of charges to			
							Salary of Tahsildars and their establishment.		Salary of Mandals.		Total.		Collection by Tahsildars.		Total Collection.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
Goalpara ...	34,068	33,916	...	...	34,068	33,916	901	936	895	874	1,796	1,810	5·27	5·33	5·27	5·33
Kamrup ...	11,85,266	11,66,635	1,12,269	1,19,863	12,97,535	12,86,498	11,840	12,379	13,209	13,242	25,049	25,621	2·11	2·20	1·93	1·99
Darrang ...	4,46,896	4,59,813	36,174	40,902	4,83,070	5,00,715	4,936	5,088	5,009	5,170	9,945	10,258	2·22	2·23	2·05	2·04
Nowgong ...	2,67,911	1,99,456	...	...	2,67,911	1,99,456	3,197	3,219	2,588	2,590	5,785	5,809	2·15	2·91	2·15	2·91
Sibsagar ...	6,04,255	5,99,721	13,334	14,038	16,17,589	6,13,759	5,810	5,810	4,414	3,094	10,267	8,904	1·69	1·48	1·65	1·45
Lakhimpur ...	1,05,768	94,538	2,599	2,935	1,08,367	97,473	1,035	1,035	1,031	1,078	1,933	2,113	1·82	2·23	1·78	2·16
Total ...	26,44,194	25,54,079	1,64,376	1,77,738	28,08,570	27,31,817	27,629	28,467	27,146	26,048	54,775	54,515	2·07	2·13	1·95	1·99

II.—Collections in Mauzas outside Tahsils.

District.	Collection by Mauzadars.		Other collections.		Total.		Charges on collection by Mauzadars.						Percentage of charges to			
							Commission of Mauzadars.		Salary of Mandals.		Total.		Collection by Mauzadars.		Total Collection.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
Goalpara	61,289	62,306	254	202	61,543	62,508	2,272	2,294	757	828	3,029	3,122	4·94	5·01	4·92	4·99
Kamrup	94,594	91,219	...	...	94,594	91,219	3,352	3,296	1,567	1,643	4,919	4,939	5·20	5·41	5·20	5·41
Darrang	1,75,261	1,77,231	...	...	1,75,261	1,77,231	6,312	6,510	2,310	2,453	8,622	8,963	4·91	5·05	4·91	5·05
Nowgong	3,02,828	2,95,969	22,297	27,581	3,25,125	3,23,550	10,023	9,788	5,339	5,951	15,362	15,739	5·07	5·31	4·72	4·86
Sibsagar	6,07,792	5,96,510	21,913	22,420	6,29,705	6,18,930	18,231	16,994	5,984	4,542	24,215	21,536	3·98	3·61	3·84	3·47
Lakhimpur ...	3,06,974	3,13,927	16,267	20,111	3,23,241	3,34,038	11,202	11,192	4,507	4,778	15,709	15,970	5·11	5·08	4·85	4·78
Total	15,18,738	15,37,162	60,731	70,314	16,09,469	16,07,473	51,392	40,286	20,464	14,244	71,356	54,530	4·63	3·54	4·46	3·38

Following the practice of previous years, only half the salary of tahsildars and their establishments and half that of mauzadars and mandals have been included in the cost of collection, while the commission of 30 per cent. paid to the Beltola mauzadar, which is in fact a pension, has been omitted.

There was an increase in the charges on collections by tahsildars in all the districts except Sibsagar, owing to increase in revenue, irregularity in encashment of pay-bills of some of the tahsildars of Kamrup, and drawal during the year of some arrear pay due to the mandals. The slight decrease in Sibsagar was due mainly to the salaries of mandals for December 1897 and January and February 1898 not having been paid before the close of the year. On the whole, there was a small decrease in the cost of collection by mauzadars.

The following statement shows the balances outstanding in tahsils and mauzas in the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of the year, as well as those at the end of 1896-97 :

District.	Outstanding balance on 1st April 1897		Outstanding balance on 1st April 1898			
	In tahsils.	In mauzas.	In tahsils.		In mauzas.	
			Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	32	...	100	3	...	...
Kamrup	16,436	...	22,876	742	...	...
Darrang	15,714	...	19,109	1,407	...	...
Nowgong	68,474	26,743	59,405	41,849	30,543	7,583
Sibsagar	48,233	29,021	54,727	12,463	59,426	...
Lakhimpur	6,621	1,390	25,577	1,460	14,581	...
Total	1,55,510	57,154	181,794	57,924	1,04,550	7,583

It will be seen that the outstanding balance on 1st April 1897 was reduced from Rs. 1,55,510 to Rs. 57,924 in tahsils and from Rs. 57,154 to Rs. 7,583 in mauzas at the close of the year.

Collection establishment in the Brahmaputra Valley.

15. The following statement shows the strength of the fixed establishment entertained for the collection of land revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley at the close of the year under report, as compared with the previous year :

District.	Area of each district, in square miles.	Number of Tahsildars		Number of Mauzadars		Average area of each tahsil.	Average area of each mauza.
		On 31st March 1897.	On 31st March 1898.	On 31st March 1897.	On 31st March 1898.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	1,570·00	1	1	6	6	374·19	199·30
Kamrup	3,660·31	12	12	8	8	237·19	116·28
Darrang	3,416·00	5	5	13	13	276·72	136·15
Nowgong	3,259·00	3	3	19	23	136·62	123·92
Sibsagar	2,822·00	5	5	22	23	182·40	83·04
Lakhimpur	3,723·00	1	1	30	31	329·04	120·96
Total	18,450·31	27	27	98	104	226·51	139·34

There was no change in the number of tahsildars during the year. In the number of mauzadars there has been an increase of 6, *viz.*, 4 in Nowgong and one in each of the districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur. In Nowgong, one large mauza, which was temporarily placed under the charge of the sadr tahsildar, was split up into two, and another mauza into three separate mauzas, and each of them settled separately for convenience of management. Similarly, in Sibsagar one mauza, which was too big for one man to manage, was broken up into two, while in Lakhimpur two mauzas formerly in charge of one man were separated and placed under separate mauzadars.

The following statement shows the total strength of the agency employed for collection of land revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley during each of the past five years :

Year.	Tahsildars.	Mauzadars.
1893-94	24	119
1894-95	24	111
1895-96	26	104
1896-97	27	98
1897-98	27	104

SECTION III.

MISCELLANEOUS LAND REVENUE.

Current demand of miscellaneous land revenue.

16. Statement No. V in the Appendix shows the demand, collections, remissions and balances of miscellaneous land revenue in each district. The following table compares the current demand of the year under each head with that of the preceding year:

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	1896-97.	1897-98.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of Increase.	Percentage of Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
(1) Elephants—						
(*a*) License fees	16,801	16,719	...	82	...	·49
(*b*) Royalty	28,900	31,300	2,400	...	8·30	...
Total elephants	45,701	48,019	2,400	82	...	...
Net increase	...	...	+2,318		+5·07	
(2) Fisheries	1,45,136	1,51,168	6,032	...	4·16	...
(3) Poll-tax	14,028	14,308	280	...	2·00	...
(4) House-tax	1,51,175	1,50,140	...	1,035	...	·68
(5) Lime-quarries	17,948	8,539	...	9,409	...	52·42
(6) Stone-quarries	346	...	...	346	...	100·00
(7) Coal-mines and mineral oil	39,896	39,026	...	870	...	1·47
(8) Sale of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	6,423	24,898	18,475	...	287·64	...
(9) Survey fees	24,204	26,426	2,222	...	9·18	...
(10) Mutation and registration fees ...	282	81	...	201	...	71·28
(11) Other miscellaneous items not specified above.	10,783	8,394	...	2,389	...	22·16
Grand total	4,55,922	4,70,999	29,409	14,332	...	...
Net increase	...	...	+15,077		+3·31	

Explanation of increase and decrease.

17. (1) *Elephants* (*increase Rs.* 2,318).—There was a decrease under the head license fees, due chiefly to the fact that an elephant *mahal* in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, which yielded Rs. 1,000 in 1896-97, was not leased during the year for want of adequate bids. Another elephant *mahal* in the Jaintia Hills subdivision of the same district, which remained closed in the preceding year, could not be leased, as the Superintendent of Kheddas proposed to hunt there. The increase under the head of royalty was obtained in the districts of Cachar and the Naga Hills. Under this head there was a falling-off of Rs. 4,200 in the Assam Valley districts, due mainly (1) in Goalpara to lack of energy in working the *mahals*; (2) in Kamrup partly to the decrease in the number of *mahals* leased and partly to the unfavourable character of the year for hunting operations; (3) in Darrang to the exclusion of the Khaling Duar forest reserve from the area leased for hunting, and (4) in Lakhimpur to the extension of tea cultivation and the consequent clearing of jungle. No elephant *mahals* were leased in the Garo Hills or the Sylhet district, and the elephant *mahals* in the Sibsagar district were also allowed to rest.

(2) *Fisheries* (*increase Rs.* 6,032).—The increase was chiefly due to higher bids obtained at the auction sales held in Sylhet.

(3) *Poll-tax* (*increase Rs.* 280).—There was an increase of Rs. 718 in Sylhet, due to immigration from the permanently-settled land and Hill Tippera, and a decrease of Rs. 438 in Lakhimpur due to the substitution of land revenue for poll-tax in the case of Miris, who cultivated *rupit* land.

(4) *House-tax* (*decrease Rs.* 1,035.—The decrease occurred chiefly in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills in consequence of the effects of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897, and in Nowgong and North Cachar due to deaths and emigration to other districts. In the Garo Hills and the Naga Hills the demand under this head showed an increase, due to immigration and the more accurate enumeration of houses.

(5) *Lime-quarries* (*decrease Rs.* 9,409).—Lime-quarries are a source of revenue only in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills. The decrease is accounted for by the fact that after the earthquake no stone could be exported from the important Sohbar,

Komora and Shella quarries owing to the damage done to the Therria-Companyganj Railway and the blocking up of the Bogapani river at the foot of the hills.

(6) *Stone-quarries* (*decrease Rs.* 346).—No income was derived from the two stone-quarries in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, which were not leased for want of adequate bids.

(7) *Coal-mines and mineral oils* (*decrease Rs.* 870).—The decrease occurred under the head of coal-mines at Ledo and Tikak in the Lakhimpur district. The Assam Railways and Trading Company extracted 179,955 tons of coal from these mines, against 175,992 tons in 1896-97; on the other hand, 26,544 tons were extracted by them from the Namdang and Tirap grants (called Haly's coal grants), against 110 tons in the preceding year. No royalty is paid on coal extracted from these grants, but only a surface rent on the land itself.

There has been no change in the demand on account of mineral oils, which now consists only of surface rents on the concessions. The same Company extracted 222,077 gallons of mineral oil from their wells at Digboi, against 235,230 gallons in 1896-97. The wells of the Assam Oil Syndicate remained unworked during the year. Sanction has lately been given to the amalgamation of the oil concessions of the two Concerns, and it is hoped that, with the importation of fresh capital into the business, the concessions will be worked on a much larger and more efficient scale.

(8) *Sale of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue* (*increase Rs.* 18,475).—The receipts under this head consist almost entirely of sums realised at the sale of lease of waste land for special cultivation under Section I of the Settlement Rules. The receipts in Nowgong and a portion of those in Lakhimpur included the price of land applied for in the preceding year.

(9) *Survey fees* (*increase Rs.* 2,222).—The increase was caused by applications for settlement of large areas under Section I of the Settlement Rules in the districts of Goalpara and Darrang, and by an increased number of such applications in Sibsagar.

(10) *Mutation and registration fees* (*decrease Rs.* 201).—The decrease occurred in Sylhet, where the fees were realised in court-fee stamps, and a sum of Rs. 81 only was realised in cash, against Rs. 282 realised in the preceding year on account of the registration of *talukdari* tenures in the district.

(11) *Miscellaneous* (*decrease Rs.* 2,389).—This head includes partition fees, fees on account of gold-washing licenses, sale-proceeds of ivory and some other minor items. There was a decrease in receipts on account of partition fees, due to a falling-off in the number of partition cases in the districts of the Assam Valley affected by the earthquake and subsequent floods and by *kalá-ázár*. The decrease in receipts under the head gold-washing license represents the fees on an exploring license in respect of certain rivers in the Lakhimpur district which was not renewed during the year. Sale proceeds of ivory also fell off, owing to fewer elephant tusks having been sold in the Assam Valley and the Garo Hills. The two ivory *mahals* in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, which fetched Rs. 1,185 in 1896-97, were not leased during the year.

Arrear demand.

18. The arrear demand at the close of 1896-97 was Rs. 9,595, the figures have since been corrected to Rs. 10,270 as shown in the statement below:

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1897.	Changes made in arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1897.		Arrear demand on 1st April 1897 as finally ascertained.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. License fees for catching elephants	282	...	...	282
2. Royalty on elephants	3,000	500	...	3,500
3. Fisheries	5,715	...	...	5,715
4. Poll-tax	100	56	...	156
5. House-tax	311	18	...	329
6. Miscellaneous	187	101	...	288
Total	9,595	675	...	10,270

Total demand, collections, and balances.

19. The total demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue, including arrears, was Rs. 4,81,269, of which Rs. 4,50,606, or 93·63 per cent., were realised. Rupees. 2,393, or ·50 per cent., were remitted, and Rs. 28,270, or 5·87 per cent., remained outstanding at the close of the year. Details for each district are given in the statement below:

District.	Demands.	Collections	Remissions.	Balances.	Percentage of		
					Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Cachar	24,097	22,436	...	1,661	93·11	...	6·89
Sylhet	66,225	54,645	1,382	10,198	82·51	2·09	15·40
Goalpara	17,741	17,740	...	1	99·99	...	·006
Kamrup	29,135	27,100	10	2,025	93·02	·03	6·95
Darrang	27,560	23,624	339	3,597	85·72	1·23	13·05
Nowgong	26,541	25,127	642	772	94·67	2·42	2·91
Sibsagar	46,393	46,218	...	175	99·62	...	·38
Lakhimpur	80,577	80,577	...	...	100·00	...	...
Naga Hills	78,250	74,220	...	4,030	94·85	...	5·15
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	43,437	37,830	...	5,607	87·09	...	12·91
Garo Hills	41,313	41,089	20	204	99·46	·05	·49
Total	4,81,269	4,50,606	2,393	28,270	93·63	·50	5·87

The balances shown against Cachar, Goalpara and Sibsagar have since been realised in full. In Sylhet Rs. 10,198 remained unrealised at the close of the year, of which Rs. 3,272 have since been realised. Rupees 2,543 on account of fishery revenue have been reported for remission in consideration of the loss sustained by the settlement-holders in consequence of the earthquake, Rs. 6 have been found to be irrecoverable and the balance is under recovery. Of the balance of Rs. 5,607 in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Rs. 268 have been remitted and the balance has been realised in full. In Kamrup Rs. 1,137 have been realised and Rs. 22 remitted. In Nowgong Rs. 646, in Darrang Rs. 3,277, in the Naga Hills Rs. 2,577, and in the Garo Hills Rs. 143 have been realised since the close of the year.

Remissions.

20. During the year under report, Rs. 1,382 were remitted in Sylhet, Rs. 1,363 on account of fishery revenue, and Rs. 19 on account of poll-tax, as the defaulters had no property to pay the arrears. Rupees 10 were remitted in Kamrup and Rs. 20 on account of house-tax in the Garo Hills as irrecoverable. The remission in Darrang was on account of fishery revenue, which could not be realised. In Nowgong Rs. 625 was remitted on account of fishery revenue and Rs. 17 on account of house-tax outstanding from the preceding year.

SECTION IV.

PROCESSES FOR THE RECOVERY OF ARREARS OF REVENUE.

Laws and Rules under which arrears of revenue are realised.

21. There was no change in the procedure followed in realising revenue.

Working of the Sale Law in Sylhet.

22. Details of the working of the Sale Law in Sylhet during the past two years are given in the following statement. The particulars shown in the last two columns of the statement relate to

revenue-free estates against which proceedings were taken for the recovery of arrears of local rate :

—	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.				Revenue-free tenures.	
			Jaintia.		Others.			
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Number of estates in arrears ...	12,846	13,229	8,579	13,839	3,181	6,060	143	172
2. Government demand, Rs.	5,15,411	4,84,868	1,19,255	1,74,670	1,31,921	1,65,490	1,935	2,269
3. Amount of arrears, Rs.	1,86,211	1,87,115	68,173	1,28,570	63,873	11,685	1,560	1,600
4. Number of estates in arrear, the arrears of which were paid up before notice of demand or proclamation of sale issued under section 68 or 70	3,603	4,076	3,948	4,465	1,045	2,041	20	39
5. Number of estates against which notice of demand issued under section 68 ..	...	...	4,631	9,374	2,077(*a*)	3,894(*b*)	...	...
6. Amount of arrears for which notice of demand issued, Rs. ...	...	...	39,515	92,538	34,097	72,779	...	...
7. Number of estates arrears of which were realised after notice of demand ...	...	...	634	779	1,007	2,447	...	...
8. Number of estates in respect of which notice of attachment of moveable property issued under section 69	...	...	66	52	1,070	1,447	...	...
9. Amount of arrears for which notice of attachment issued, Rs.	...	...	216	205	18,974	24,967	...	...
10. Number of estates arrears of which were realised after notice of attachment of moveables...	...	...	63	47	952	1,277	...	...
11. Number of estates in respect of which notice of sale of moveable property under section 69 issued	...	...	3	5	118	168	...	...

(*a*) This is exclusive of 59 estates with arrears of under 4 annas each, against which no notice of demand issued.

(*b*) This is exclusive of 125 estates with an arrear of below 4 annas each for which no notice of sale was issued,

—	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.				Revenue-free tenures.	
			Jaintia.		Others.			
	1896-97.	1897-98	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12. Amount of arrears for which moveable property was sold, Rs.	...	...	61	29	1,515	1,265	...	...
13. Number of estates against which proclamation of sale issued under section 72	7,477(c)	6,140(g)	3,997(e)	3,462(h)	...	2	74(f)	74(i)
14. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of sale issued, Rs. ...	1,62,776	1,42,294	37,032	56,015	...	133	1,255	1,471
15. Number of estates arrears of which were paid up under section 75 after proclamation of sale issued ...	7,295	5,910	2,372	2,474	...	1	64	65
16. Number of sales of estates for arrears of revenue ...	183(d)	230	58	52(j)	...	1	10	10(d)
17. Amount of arrears for which the estates were sold, Rs. ...	569	771	829	499	...	5	5	10
18. Price fetched at auction sales of estates, Rs. ...	44,002	80,880	4,569	3,112	...	32	166	334
19. Number of estates purchased by Government	4	8	2	...	...	...	1	...
20. Amount of arrears for which estates purchased by Government were sold, Rs. .	3	10	3	...	...	...	1	...
21. Number of estates of which settlement was annulled under section 90 ...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
22. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of annulment issued, Rs. ...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...

(c) Excluding 1,766 estates with an arrear of below 4 annas in each estate for which no notice of sale was issued.

(d) Including one resale.

(e) Out of these, 1,567 estates were exempted from sale.

(f) This is exclusive of 49 estates with arrears of under 4 annas each, against which no notice of sale was issued.

(g) This is exclusive of 3,013 estates with an arrear of below 4 annas each, for which no notice of sale was issued.

(h) This is exclusive of 5,133 estates exempted from sale.

(i) This is exclusive of 59 estates with an arrear of 4 annas each, for which no notice of sale was issued.

(j) This is exclusive of 936 estates exempted from sale.

The increase in the number of permanently-settled estates defaulting and in the number actually sold is attributed to disputes among shareholders.

In consequence of the earthquake and the floods which followed it, the number of estates in arrears in the Jaintia Parganas rose from 8,579 to 13,839. Coercive processes were issued in case of 3,462 estates, and 5,133 estates were exempted from sale owing partly to the arrears being less than 4 annas and partly to the enhanced rates of assessment not taking effect till 1st April 1898.

In other parganas also the number of temporarily-settled estates defaulting shows a large increase due to the distress caused by the earthquake, floods, and prevalence of fever amongst the raiyats.

The number of revenue-free estates defaulting in the payment of local rates increased from 143 in 1896-97 to 172 in the year under report. Ten such estates were sold during the year, including one resale, and fetched an aggregate price of Rs. 334, the amount of local rates assessed on them being Rs. 10.

Result of applications for annulment of sales in Sylhet.

23. The number of applications for annulment of sales that had to be dealt with was 120 (29 pending at the close of 1896-97 and 91 presented during the year). In 32 cases the sales were cancelled, 31 applications were rejected and 57 remained undisposed of at the close of the year.

Separate accounts in Sylhet.

24. There were 282 applications to open separate accounts pending at the commencement of the year and 708 were filed during the year, making a total of 990 applications for disposal, of which 671 were granted, 108 rejected, and 211 left pending at the close of the year.

Recovery of arrears of land revenue in Cachar.

25. The subjoined statement shows the steps taken for the realisation of arrears of land revenue in Cachar during the year under review and in the preceding year :

	1896-97.	1897-98.
1. Number of estates in arrears	7,256	10,310
2. Government demand, Rs.	3,68,647	3,71,340
3. Amount of arrears, Rs.	65,780	81,787
4. Number of estates in arrears which paid up before notice of demand or proclamation of sale issued under section 68 or 70	2,256	3,673
5. Number of estates against which notice of demand issued under section 68	5,100	6,155
6. Amount of arrears for which notice of demand issued, Rs.	42,494	43,399
7. Number of estates of which arrears were realised after notice of demand	1,984	2,864
8. Number of estates in respect of which notice of attachment of moveable property issued under section 69...	3,013	3,343
9. Amount of arrears for which notice of attachment issued, Rs.	24,806	25,459
10. Number of estates of which arrears were realised after notice of attachment of moveables	2,164	2,231
11. Number of estates in respect of which sale of moveable property under section 69 occurred ...	14	11
12. Amount of arrears for which moveables were sold, Rs.	92	17
13. Number of estates against which proclamation of sale issued under section 72	9	9
14. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of sale issued, Rs.	116	49
15. Number of estates which paid up under section 75 after issue of proclamation of sale	6	3
16. Number of estates sold for arrears under section 70 ...	3	3
17. Amount of arrears for which estates were sold, Rs. ...	24	27
18. Price fetched at auction sale of estates ...	50	28
19. Number of estates purchased by Government ...	...	...
20. Amount of arrears for which estates purchased by Government were sold, Rs.	...	...
21. Number of estates of which settlement was annulled under section 90	...	...
22. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of annulment issued, Rs.	...	...

The high price of food-grains prevailing in the district is said to be the cause of the noteable increase in the number of defaulting estates and in the amount of arrears. As usual, the greater portion of the arrear was paid up before the employment of any coercive process other than the notice of demand.

Working of the Sale Law in Goalpara.

26. The land revenue and the local rates due on the permanently-settled estates in the Goalpara district were punctually paid ; there was therefore no necessity to resort to coercive processes.

27. The following statement shows the working of the system of realisation of arrears of revenue by means of processes of demand in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley during the past two years :

Working of the process of demand system in the Brahmaputra Valley.

District.		Number of revenue-paying estates in the district.	Number of estates on the owners of which notice of demand issued.	Amount of revenue in arrears for which notice of demand issued.	Amount of revenue paid after issue of notice of demand.	Number of cases in which property had to be attached.	
						Moveables.	Estates.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs.	Rs.		
Goalpara ...	1896-97 ...	16,512	842	7,246	6,473	104	...
	1897-98 ...	17,509	330	1,948	1,323	88	...
Kamrup ...	1896-97 ...	175,123	7,213	2,50,170	1,07,913	1,575	262
	1897-98 ...	184,583	6,041	2,23,805	78,911	1,104	357
Darrang ...	1896-97 ...	112,103	5,818	53,454	30,425	1,140	54
	1897-98 ...	116,932	6,813	59,075	28,484	1,203	125
Nowgong ...	1896-97 ...	132,375	9,561	83,462	22,131	1,245	510
	1897-98 ...	126,440	7,943	82,116	45,087	2,994	341
Sibsagar ...	1896-97 ...	171,081	8,841	1,87,921	1,24,278	2,932	456
	1897-98 ...	178,067	8,579	1,70,155	88,171	2,682	277
Lakhimpur ...	1896-97 ...	64,281	6,382	70,236	28,407	1,057	263
	1897-98 ...	65,049	5,514	48,033	17,656	1,036	58
Total ...	1896-97 ...	671,475	38,657	6,52,489	3,19,627	8,053	1,545
	1897-98 ...	688,580	35,270	5,85,132	2,59,632	9,107	1,158

District.		Amount of arrears for which property was attached.	Number of cases in which notice of sale had to be issued.	Amount of arrears for which sale notice was issued.	Number of cases in which property had to be sold.		Amount of arrears for which property was sold.	Percentage of column 3 on column 2.
					Moveables.	Estates.		
		8	9	10	11		12	13
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.	
Goalpara ...	1896-97 ...	286	3	32	1	...	3	5·09
	1897-98 ...	510	2	63	1	...	45	2·17
Kamrup ...	1896-97 ...	1,40,778	518	12,972	47	54	6,863	4·11
	1897-98 ...	1,32,812	604	55,814	67	70	4,618	3·27
Darrang ...	1896-97 ...	14,267	623	5,306	77	46	715	5·18
	1897-98 ...	14,777	730	5,813	74	15	717	5·82
Nowgong ...	1896-97 ...	17,595	675	7,706	136	20	1,190	7·22
	1897-98 ...	12,193	169	1,362	109	8	858	6·28
Sibsagar ...	1896-97 ...	45,961	326	3,672	18	71	1,063	5·16
	1897-98 ...	72,090	239	3,673	17	48	1,450	4·82
Lakhimpur ...	1896-97 ..	15,327	513	3,403	34	80	965	9·92
	1897-98 ...	18,314	144	2,090	39	25	788	8·48
Total ...	1896-97 ...	2,34,214	2,658	33,091	313	271	10,799	5·75
	1897-98 ...	2,50,696	1,888	68,815	307	166	8,476	5·12

On the whole, there was a decrease in the number of notices of demand issued, shared by all the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, except Darrang, where there was an increase of 995.

The decrease in Dhubri is ascribed partly to the realisation of a larger proportion of the revenue by the tahsildar of Bijni without issue of processes. The decrease in Kamrup and Nowgong was due to the fact that coercive processes were sparingly issued against the persons who suffered losses by the earthquake of the 12th June 1897 and the floods. In Dibrugarh the decrease is accounted for by the fact that certain mauzadars, and specially the four who were thrown out of employ owing to the opening out of the new tahsil at headquarters, had been allowed in 1896-97 to have free recourse to coercive processes to realise large outstanding balances of 1895-96. The tahsildar also resorted freely in the same year to coercive processes for the realisation of arrears. The consequence was that the amount of revenue in arrear decreased in 1896-97, and hence fewer processes had to be issued in 1897-98.

The increase in Darrang is ascribed to damage done in the Mangaldai subdivision to standing crops by the floods, to splitting up of large estates into smaller ones by cadastral survey, and to a large number of small estates having fallen into arrears.

The number of cases in which moveables were attached, was more numerous than in the preceding year, the largest number of attachments having occurred in Nowgong, but notices of attachment of estates were issued in fewer cases.

The districts of Kamrup and Nowgong were the most prominent in enforcing attachments of estates, and contributed the largest proportion thereof, this being due to the failure of crops and the damage done by the late seismic disturbances.

There was a decrease in the sales both of moveable property and of estates for arrears throughout the Brahmaputra Valley.

Comparison with previous years.

28. The two tables below compare the number of notices of demand issued and the number of estates sold for arrears of revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley in each of the past four years :

Notices of Demand.

Years.	Number.	Percentage on the total number of estates.
1894-95	26,327	4·00
1895-96	34,468	5·23
1896-97	38,657	5·75
1897-98	35,270	5·12

Estates sold for Arrears of Revenue.

Subdivision.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Dhubri	...	...	...	...
Barpeta	...	4	1	8
Gauhati	3	16	53	52
Mangaldai	8	9	20	4
Tezpur	2	21	12	11
Nowgong	88	29	20	8
Golaghat	3	9	36	21
Jorhat	2	1	26	10
Sibsagar	42	5	9	17
North Lakhimpur	3	18	12	7
Dibrugarh	8	4	68	22
Total	159	116	257	160

Annulment of settlement in the Brahmaputra Valley.

29. In all, the settlement of 272 estates, *viz.*, 33 in Kamrup, 110 in Darrang, 59 in Nowgong, and 70 in Sibsagar, was formally annulled during the year, against 405 in the previous year.

SECTION V.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS FOR ORDINARY CULTIVATION.

Ordinary settlements in Cachar.

30. In Cachar 988 applications for settlement of land for ordinary cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules were registered during the year, against 776 in the preceding year. Including the 497 registered applications pending from the previous year, the total number for disposal was 1,485, of which 689 were disposed of and 796 remained pending at the close of the year.

The following statement shows the settled and unsettled area of the Sadr and Hailakandi subdivisions of the Cachar district:

—	Total area of subdivision and district, in acres.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentages of area settled to the total area of the subdivision and district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue-free, including fee-simple.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Silchar ...	1,249,280	344,135	97,332	441,467	399,792	408,021	35·34
Hailakandi ...	332,800	121,369	50,769	172,138	51,200	109,462	51·72
Total ...	1,582,080	465,504	148,101	613,605	450,992	517,483	38·78

The percentage of the total area settled for the last ten years is as follows:

1888-89 ...	36·95
1889-90 ...	37·10
1890-91 ...	37·52
1891-92 ...	37·60
1892-93 ...	37·73
1893-94 ...	37·95
1894-95 ...	38·30
1895-96 ...	38·58
1896-97 ...	38·65
1897-98 ...	38·78

Ordinary settlements in Sylhet.

31. The table below gives details of applications for settlement under section III of the Settlement Rules of lands in Sylhet required for ordinary cultivation during each of the past two years:

	1896-97.	1897-98.
1. Applications pending when the year began	957	650
2. Ditto made during the year	399	1,044
3. Number of settlements made during the year ...	34	13
4. Area, in acres	359	1,047
5. Revenue assessed	Rs. 541	Rs. 885
6. Number of estates transferred to *khas* tahsil ...	...	...
7. Ditto of applications struck off	672	1,384
8. Applications pending when the year closed ...	650	297

The bulk of the applications struck off refers to lands in the Langai and Singla forest reserves. They were removed from the register pending disposal of the question of disforestation of the tracts.

The following statement shows the proportion which the settled area bears to the whole area of the Sylhet district:

	Total area of subdivision and district, in acres.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentage of area settled to the total area of the subdivision and district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue free, including fee-simple.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Jaintia ...	309,939	205,853	7,177	213,030	...	96,909	68·73
Sylhet Proper ...	3,149,440	2,723,902	32,464	2,756,366	108,800	284,274	87·52
Total ...	3,459,379	2,929,755	39,641	2,969,396	108,800	381,183	85·84

Including the permanently-settled area, the proportion borne by the settled area to the total area of the district in 1897-98 was 85·84 per cent.

Settlement in the Brahmaputra Valley.

32. The following statements show the number, area, and revenue of estates annually and periodically settled at full rates in the several districts of the Brahmaputra Valley (excluding town lands) at the end of each of the past two years. Details for each subdivision will be found in Statement No. VI in the Appendix:

Annually settled.

District.	1896-97.				1897-98.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	16,211	67,655	4·17	93,143	17,202	67,913	3·94	93,960	+ 817
Kamrup	114,374	243,664	2·13	5,36,570	104,199	200,813	1·93	4,34,438	—1,02,132
Darrang	68,355	112,994	1·65	2,82,350	72,993	117,811	1·61	2,94,676	+ 12,326
Nowgong	93,678	150,545	1·60	3,48,465	83,572	128,516	1·53	2,93,993	— 54,472
Sibsagar	87,769	126,372	1·43	3,09,813	89,481	126,381	1·41	3,07,414	— 2,399
Lakhimpur	41,930	71,294	1·70	1,66,083	43,260	77,007	1·78	1,79,264	+ 13,181
Total	422,317	772,524	1·82	17,36,424	410,707	718,441	1·75	16,03,745	—1,32,679

Periodically-settled.

District.	1896-97.				1897-98.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	1	192	192	319	1	192	192	319	....
Kamrup	57,441	233,643	4·06	652,614	77,058	277,071	3·59	761,007	+1,08,393
Darrang	43,026	128,036	2·97	353,367	43,175	127,971	2·96	351,604	— 1,763
Nowgong	37,917	81,655	2·15	239,163	42,032	84,021	1·99	245,456	+ 6,293
Sibsagar	81,028	321,892	3·97	891,567	86,328	333,859	3·86	919,974	+ 28,407
Lakhimpur	21,406	88,462	4·13	236,356	20,840	88,066	4·22	234,754	— 1,602
Total	240,819	853,940	3·54	2,373,386	269,434	911,180	3·38	2,513,114	+1,39,728

The total settled area at the close of the year was 1,629,621 acres with a revenue of Rs. 41,16,859, against 1,626,464 acres with a revenue of Rs. 41,09,810 at the end of the preceding year. There was an increase of 3,157 acres in the total area settled at full rates (excluding town lands) as detailed below:

District.	Acres.
Goalpara	+ 258
Kamrup	+ 577
Darrang	+ 4,692
Nowgong	—19,663
Sibsagar	+11,976
Lakhimpur	+ 5,317
Total	+ 3,157

The causes of increase and decrease in each district are indicated in paragraph 9 above, in which the causes of fluctuations in the revenue demand have been discussed. The decrease in the number, area, and revenue of estates settled at full rates on annual leases in Kamrup is due to the conversion of annual leases to decennial. In the Sibsagar district, the decrease in the revenue demand of the annually-settled area is also due to the same cause, *viz.*, the conversion of leases. The loss in the area was counterbalanced by the settlement of areas newly brought under cultivation, but the decrease in revenue could not be wholly made up, as the newly-settled lands belonged to a lower class than those which were transferred to the class "periodically-settled." The increase in the number, area, and revenue of periodically-settled estates in this district was partly due to the above cause and partly to the issue of fresh leases for lands taken up for special cultivation and the extension of cultivation. The largest decrease both in area and revenue occurred in Nowgong due to the causes enumerated in paragraph 9. There was a decrease both in area and in revenue of periodically-settled estates in Darrang due to relinquishments and annulment of settlements for irrecoverable revenue, while the annually-settled estates show an increase due to extensions of cultivation and cadastral survey by local agency. In Lakhimpur, there was an increase in area and revenue of the annually-settled estates due to extensions of cultivation and a decrease in those of the periodically-settled estates in consequence of relinquishments.

33. Details as to the number, area, and revenue of estates settled at half rates in each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley (exclusive of those in town lands) at the end of each of the past two years, are given in Statement No. VII in the Appendix. The following is an abstract :

Nisf-khiraj estates, *i.e.*, estates settled at half-rates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

District.	Number.		Area.		Revenue.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.
Kamrup	1,976	1,976	151,361	151,361	1,51,501	1,51,501
Darrang	91	91	31,078	31,078	17,680	17,680
Nowgong	25	25	5,542	5,542	4,546	4,546
Sibsagar	342	344	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,414
Lakhimpur	29	29	1,286	1,286	1,797	1,797
Total	2,463	2,465	194,258	194,258	1,78,938	1,78,938

The total number of *nisf-khiraj* estates in the division increased by 2, the area and the revenue remaining the same. Partition was effected in regard to an estate in the Jorhat subdivision, and two fresh *pattas* were issued. There were no changes in the other districts. Nine *nisf-khiraj* estates in the Gauhati subdivision, with an area of 1,581 acres, and paying a revenue of Rs. 932, and an area of 49 acres in the Barpeta subdivision, paying a revenue of Rs. 45, were resigned during the year under report. These resignations have not been shown in the above statement, as the resigned lands have not affected the settlement for the year under report.

34. Statement No. VIII in the Appendix shows the number, area, and revenue of estates settled on special terms in the Brahmaputra Valley. There was an increase in revenue of the Goalpara *chur*, due to competition at the sale. An estate in the Goalpara hill was settled for ten years with Mr. A. E. Stephen on behalf of the American Baptist Mission at the rate of annas 8 per *bigha*. The Gauhati subdivision shows an increase of 17 estates, due to ordinary extension of cultivation. The increase in revenue in the Jalukbari and Phatasil *khats* was due to extension of cultivation. In the Tezpur subdivision, there was a decrease in revenue in the 6-pie *lakhiraj* estates belonging to the Aunihati and Dakshinpat Gossains, due to falling off in the area under cultivation. The decrease in revenue in the Nowgong district occurred in consequence of relinquishments by some sub-tenants holding lands in the Aunihati *khats*. The ten-twenties in the Sibsagar district showed a decrease in the number of estates, area, and revenue, owing to the deaths of two tenure-holders. In the Dibrugarh subdivision, the increase in the area and revenue in the *khiraj khat* was due to extensions of cultivation. The decrease in the number of estates and in revenue under special settlements in Margherita with *Kayahs* was due to the transfer to the ordinary rates of two estates which were inadvertently assessed in the previous year at special rates. There was no alteration in the area of the land settled on either side of the Makum branch of the Dibru-Sadiya Railway, but the land was assessed to pay revenue for the first time during the year under report at the rate of 8 annas per *bigha*, the rent-free term having expired on the 31st March 1897. The decrease in area and in revenue in the 6-pie *lakhiraj* estates in the North Lakhimpur subdivision was due to the acquisition of 10 acres of land belonging to the Dehingia Gossain for improving the Kamolabari road.

Special settlements in the Brahmaputra Valley.

35. Statement No. IX in the Appendix shows the number, area, and revenue of *khiraj* (full revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying) estates in the several towns in the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of each of the past two years.

Khiraj (revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying) estates in the towns of the Brahmaputra Valley.

The decrease in the Dibrugarh town was due to the acquisition of land for public purposes. The decrease in the Gauhati, Golaghat, and North Lakhimpur towns is attributed to resignations and in Sibsagar to resignations, deaths, desertions, and diluvion.

36. The following table gives the average area and revenue of each class of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley for the past seven years. In this table estates in towns have been included under the heads under which they have been classified in Statement No. IX, *viz.*, *khiraj*, annual and periodic, and *nisf-khiraj*. Details of the changes which have taken place in the different classes of estates during the past four years will be found in Statement No. X in the Appendix:

Average area and revenue of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

Year.	*Khiraj*, annual.		*Khiraj*, periodic.		Special tenures.		*Nisf-khiraj*.		Waste land grants.	
	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p	Acres.
1891-92	1 11 9	1·91	1 14 9	3·51	1 6 10	6·08	0 14 4	66·12	0 7 6	329·77
1892-93	1 11 9	1·84	1 14 9	3·49	1 6 10	6·53	0 9 7	98·31	0 7 6	323·53
1893-94	2 3 3	2·00	2 13 1	3·61	3 4 5	3·09	0 13 10	82·51	0 7 8	318·53
1894-95	2 3 7	1·95	2 12 7	3·60	2 2 1	4·74	0 14 9	78·81	0 7 6	316·93
1895-96	2 4 1	1·86	2 12 11	3·48	1 2 8	16·16	0 14 9	78·67	0 7 2	328·41
1896-97	2 4 1	1·82	2 12 9	8·52	0 9 0	35·45	0 14 9	78·60	0 7 2	327·70
1897-98	2 3 10	1·74	2 12 5	3·36	1 2 4	34·61	0 14 9	78·54	0 7 8	324·01

37. The statement below compares the area and revenue of the different classes of land—*basti*, *rupit*, and *faringati*—assessed at full and half-rates during the past two years. Estates settled at special rates, town lands, and waste land grants are not included in this statement, but it includes lands held by tea-planters on ordinary terms:

Classification of land assessed at full and half-rates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

—	*Basti.*	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*	Total.	Revenue.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	
1897-98	177,425	1,021,000	616,371	1,814 796	42,95,797	
1896-97	175,160	1,021,068	615,390	1,811,618	42,88,748	
Increase or decrease ...	+ 2,265	−68	+ 981	+ 3,178	+ 7,049	

The following table gives the details of increase and decrease in different classes of land for each district:

District.	*Basti.*	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*
1	2	3	4
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	+ 345	+ 128	− 215
Kamrup	+ 1,761	+ 2,609	− 3,793
Darrang	+ 358	+ 2,843	+ 1,491
Nowgong	− 1,338	− 12,631	− 5,694
Sibsagar	+ 662	+ 5,156	+ 6,179
Lakhimpur	+ 477	+ 1,827	+ 3,013
Total	+ 2,265	− 68	+ 981

There was an increase in the area of *basti* and *rupit* in all the districts, except Nowgong, where there was a large decrease under all classes of land, due chiefly to the prevalence of *kalá-ázár*. The decrease under *faringati* in the Eastern Duars is said to be due to the effects of earthquake and that in the Kamrup district to alterations in classification.

The following table shows the proportions of the three classes of ordinary cultivation, *viz.*, *basti*, *rupit*, and *faringati*, in each district for the years 1884-85 and 1897-98:

District.	1884-85.			1897-98.		
	Basti, per cent.	*Rupit*, per cent.	*Faringati*, per cent.	*Basti*, per cent.	*Rupit*, per cent.	*Faringati*, per cent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	8·53	62·57	28·88	9·58	64·83	25·43
Kamrup	9·43	44·70	45·85	8·77	51·85	39·38
Darrang	8·30	68·23	23·46	10·43	69·00	20·95
Nowgong	6·63	35·19	58·17	10·22	51·97	37·79
Sibsagar	6·36	57·01	36·61	10·66	56·42	32·90
Lakhimpur	7·81	54·62	37·55	10·17	54·06	35·77
Total	7·98	51·02	40·99	9·77	56·26	33·97

The proportions in the division for the past five years are given below:

	Basti.	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*
1893-94	9·71	56·23	34·96
1894-95	9·66	56·57	33·75
1895-96	9·66	56·86	33·46
1896-97	9·66	56·36	33·96
1897-98	9·77	56·26	33·97

Relinquishments in the Brahmaputra Valley.

38. Details as to the resignation of estates and parts of estates settled annually or decennially in each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley (exclusive of town lands), are given in Statement No. XI in the Appendix. The resignations of 1896-97 affected the settlement of 1897-98. The resignations shown in this statement, that is, of 1897-98, will affect the settlement of the current year, 1898-99.

During the year under report relinquishments occurred in 16·18 per cent. of the *khiraj* estates settled annually and decennially, against 13·78 per cent. in the preceding year. The proportion of resignations was 12·31 in 1895-96. In 1894-95 and 1893-94 it was 12·74 and 11·95 per cent., respectively.

The area resigned during the year was 11·70, against 10·59 in 1896-97. The percentage of the past four years is as follows:

1896-97	10·59
1895-96	9·74
1894-95	8·87
1893-94	10·25

Generally, the amount of resignation was greatest proportionately in the case of lands assessed in the third class. In the Kamrup district a considerable area of second-class lands was also resigned in consequence of excessive floods and damage caused by deposits of sand.

The statement below shows the areas resigned in December 1895 and December 1896 and the resigned lands retaken and new lands taken up in 1896-97 and 1897-98:

	Resigned, etc., in		Resigned land retaken in		New land taken up in	
	December 1895.	December 1896.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara (Eastern Duars).	16,093	17,469	3,980	3,940	13,629	13,787
Kamrup	71,874	117,169	15,556	14,733	59,801	103,013
Darrang	30,015	23,535	3,992	3,602	29,675	24,625
Nowgong	62,922	86,691	8,656	10,889	37,600	56,139
Sibsagar	25,557	21,220	3,430	2,628	36,445	30,568
Lakhimpur	12,732	13,114	1,407	1,266	17,181	17,165
Total	219,193	279,198	37,021	37,058	194,331	245,297

Proportion of settled area to total area in the Brahmaputra Valley.

39. Statement No. XII in the Appendix shows the settled and unsettled area of each subdivision in the Brahmaputra Valley. Including the permanently-settled area of the Goalpara district, the proportion borne by the settled area to the total area of the valley in 1897-98 was 29·93 per cent. The percentage of the total area settled, omitting permanently-settled estates for the past ten years, is as follows:

1888-89	16·13
1889-90	16·30
1890-91	16·50
1891-92	16·92
1892-93	17·22
1893-94	17·12
1894-95	17·19
1895-96	18·40
1896-97	18·40
1897-98	18·54

SECTION VI.

REVISION OF SETTLEMENTS.

Jaintia settlement.

40. The Settlement Officer's final report on the resettlement of the Jaintia Parganas was received and orders were passed thereon during the year. It was decided that the new settlement should come into operation from the 1st April 1898, instead of 1st April 1896, and should be concluded for a term of fifteen years. Effect has been given to these orders and the necessary correction of *pattas*, etc., undertaken since the close of the year.

Surveys by professional agency.

41. The survey operations undertaken by the Professional Survey Party No. 6 employed in the province during the season 1897-98, were almost the same as in the preceding year, and consisted of—

Surma Valley—

(1) Traverse survey of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands in Sylhet, with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency.

(2) Traverse and skeleton boundary survey of certain tea grants in Sylhet.

(3) Traverse survey of certain forest areas in Cachar, which were disforested during the year 1897-98.

Brahmaputra Valley—

(4) Traverse survey of certain areas for topographical purposes.

(5) Traverse survey of areas already cadastrally surveyed by local agency.

(6) Traverse survey of certain areas with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency.

Details of the areas completed by the party under each of the heads are given below—

SURMA VALLEY.

District Sylhet—

	Square miles.
Traverse survey of temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands with a view to cadastral survey	62·03
Traverse and boundary survey of tea estates	94·73

District Cachar—

Traverse survey of the portions of the Barak and Inner Line forest reserves thrown open for ordinary cultivation	13·37

BRAHMAPUTRA VALLEY.

Traverse survey and topographical survey of areas omitted from cadastral survey—

Kamrup	231·03
Darrang	681·54
Nowgong	216·29
Total	1,128·86

Traverse of areas cadastrally surveyed by local agency—

Kamrup	123·00
Darrang	50·56
Nowgong	10·00
Total	183·56

Traverse with a view to cadastral survey by local agency :

Kamrup	39·35
Darrang	21·57
Total	60·92
Total area traversed	1,543·47

Cadastral survey by local agency.

42. Cadastral survey was carried out by local agency during the season in the districts of (1) Sylhet, (2) Goalpara, and (3) Darrang, on the basis of the traverse plots furnished by the professional party—

(1) In Sylhet, an area of 85·90 square miles of temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands was surveyed cadastrally during the season. The area with the 108·70 square miles surveyed in 1896-97 brings the total area surveyed by local agency in this district to 194·60 square miles.

(2) In Goalpara, the area surveyed cadastrally during the season came to 84·07 square miles, and the survey resulted into an increase in cultivated area of 747 *bighas* and in annual revenue of Rs. 332. The cost was Rs. 1,108.

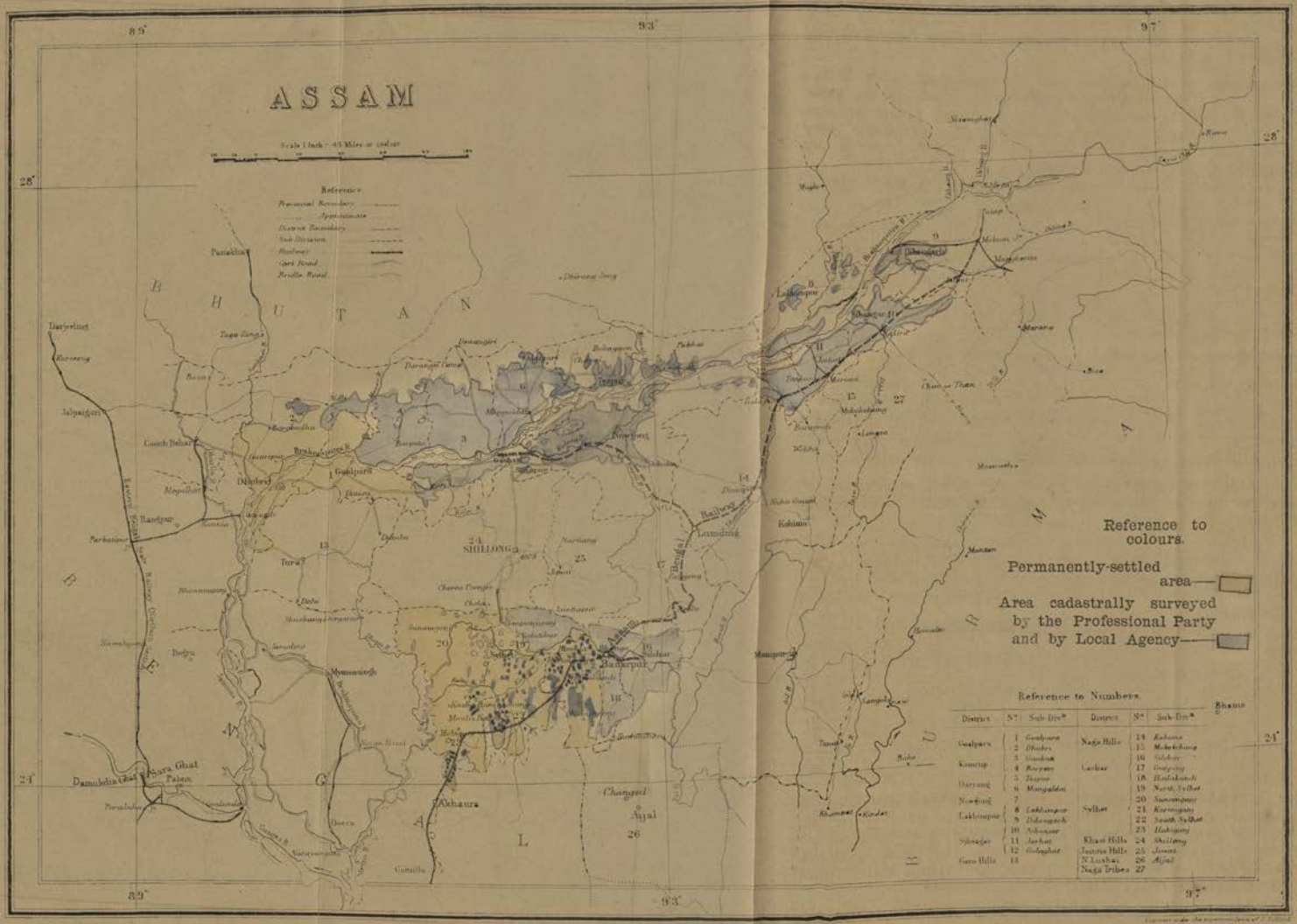
(3) An area of 6·95 square miles was surveyed in Darrang out of the 21·57 square miles traversed in that district during the season, with a view to cadastral survey. The result of the operation was an increase in cultivated area of 67 *bighas* and of Rs. 76 in the annual land revenue demand, while the cost incurred amounted to Rs. 15 only.

A map illustrating for the whole province the areas cadastrally surveyed and the areas permanently settled is annexed.

Settlement of town lands.

43. The rules for the settlement of town lands in Assam were finally approved by the Government of India and published in October 1897. Of the towns which remained to be settled, Barpeta, Mangaldai, Nowgong, North Lakhimpur and Hailakandi were exempted from the operations of these rules after the close of the year owing to the backwardness of those towns. A special Settlement Officer has been appointed for the resettlement of the towns of Dhubri and Tezpur. He will also carry out the settlement of the Silchar town. In the four towns first named, leases will be issued at the present rates of revenue for a term which will expire with the current settlement of the Assam Valley districts.

MAP ILLUSTRATING THE PERMANENTLY-SETTLED AND THE CADASTRALLY-SURVEYED AREAS OF THE PROVINCE.



District	No.	Sub-Div.ⁿ	District	No.	Sub-Div.ⁿ
Goalpara	1	Goalpara	Naga Hills	14	Kohima
	2	Dhubri		15	Mokokchung
	3	Gauhati		16	Sibsagar
Kamrup	4	Barpeta	Cachar	17	Gunjung
	5	Tezpur		18	Hailakandi
Darrang	6	Mangaldai		19	North Sylhet
Nowgong	7			20	Sunamganj
Lakhimpur	8	Lakhimpur	Sylhet	21	Karimganj
	9	Dibrugarh		22	South Sylhet
	10	Sibsagar		23	Habiganj
Sibsagar	11	Jorhat	Khasi Hills	24	Shillong
	12	Golaghat	Jaintia Hills	25	Jowai
Garo Hills	13		N.Lushai	26	Ajial
			Naga Tribes	27	

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SECTION VII.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS OF WASTE LANDS.

Scope of the section.

44. This section deals only with waste lands taken up for special cultivation, either under the Settlement Rules now in force under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, or under rules previously in force for the settlement of such land.

Applications under Section I of the Settlement Rules.

45. At the commencement of the year there were 72 applications under Section I of the Settlement Rules* pending from previous years, and 141 new applications were received during the year, making a total of 313 cases for disposal, against 250 cases in the preceding year. The statement below compares the progress made in the disposal of these applications during the past two years :

	1896-97.		1897-98.	
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5
Applications rejected, withdrawn, and struck off..	40	22,513	67	23,038
Estates settled during the year	38	11,033	100	31,457
Applications pending at the close of the year ...	172	62,522	146	60,153
Total	250	96,068	313	114,648

It will be seen that there was a considerable increase in the number settled.

The cases shown as pending at the close of the year include applications for lands which had been advertised for sale before the end of the year. These pending applications are thus distributed :

District.	Pending since 1892-93.	Pending since 1893-94.	Pending since 1894-95.	Pending since 1895-96.	Pending since 1896-97.	Instituted during the year 1897-98.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cachar	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Sylhet	1	...	1	...	1	1	4
Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Kamrup	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Darrang	...	...	...	7	6	30	43
Nowgong...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Sibsagar	...	...	...	3	12	27	42
Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	17	29	46
Total	1	...	1	10	41	93	146

It will be seen that there has been within the last two years a great increase in the number of applications for waste land. These grants are usually taken up for tea. It will be noticed that the rush of applications occurred chiefly in the principal tea districts of Upper Assam, Darrang, Sibsagar, and Lakhimpur. The opening out of new gardens received a great impetus during those two years from various causes : hence the suddenly manifested desire to acquire grants.

In previous years these grants often took a long time between the date of first application and the final conclusion of settlement and issue of lease. Sometimes several years elapsed, the chief cause of delay being the want of sufficient competent surveyors, or surveyors of such qualifications as to satisfy Government conditions. With the staff of surveyors formerly available, as a rule, there would have been greater delay than ever in dealing with this influx of applications, whereas it was desired to expedite the disposal of such cases. Accordingly sanction was given to Deputy Commissioners to entertain, where needful, additional temporary surveyors. In some

* That is, application for land at specially favourable rates, *viz.*, thirty-years' lease, a rent-free term and then progressive rent, a premium being paid in the first instance.

cases this was done by appointing selected mandals, their work being in all cases subject to the usual testing. The result has been a satisfactory acceleration of this class of case. There were during the year of report 313 cases for disposal as against 250 of the preceding year, but the balance at the close of the year is only 146 as against 172, and during the year 100 were brought to final settlement as against 38 in 1896-67.

Total number of settlements under thirty-year lease rules.

46. The statement below gives particulars of the waste land grants settled in accordance with the thirty-year lease rules during the past two years. It also shows the total number and area of grants in each district settled under these rules as they stood at the close of the year under report:

District.	1896-97.		1897-98.		Altogether to the end of 1897-98, excluding leases resumed and cancelled.	
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	...	...	...	...	1	69
Sylhet	1	342	1	583	128	82,770
Goalpara	...	...	1	1,568	2	1,928
Kamrup	...	...	5	1,942	21	5,394
Darrang	19	3,601	24	6,497	204	60,885
Nowgong	...	...	3	242	82	30,476
Sibsagar	8	967	24	7,585	226	66,129
Lakhimpur	8	2,435	18	5,823	135	52,468
Khasi and Jaintia Hills...	1	1,076	...	...	3	1,176
Total	37	8,421	76	24,240	802	301,295

Auction price realised by the sale of leases.

47. There was no competition at the auction sales of waste lands held during the year, and the lands were sold at the upset price of Re. 1 per acre.

Resignations and resumptions.

48. In Nowgong, two grants under the thirty-year lease rules, covering an area of 275·06 acres, were relinquished during the year.

Leases brought under assessment.

49. The total number of leases settled up to the close of the year under the thirty-year lease rules was 802, as shown in paragraph 46 above. Of these, 799 have come under assessment (that is to say, the revenue-free term has expired), as detailed in the statement below:

District.	Number of leases.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4
			Rs.
Cachar	1	69	69
Sylhet	125	80,374	42,782
Goalpara	2	360	180
Kamrup	21	3,452	1,730
Darrang	204	49,963	23,476
Nowgong	82	29,199	21,471
Sibsagar	226	57,000	28,736
Lakhimpur	135	43,887	22,962
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	3	1,176	585
Total	799	265,480	1,41,991

The revenue demand of these estates for the year shows an increase of Rs. 20,697 over that of the preceding year.

50. The following statement shows the demand and collections on account of timber on waste lands settled during the year under report:

Price of timber.

District.	Demand.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Sylhet	23,131	...	23,131	...	...	...	...
Goalpara	26,856	...	26,856	...	...	...	...
Kamrup	368	...	368	...	...	...	...
Darrang	3,438	525	3,438	525	...	...	...
Nowgong	71	68	71	68	...	...	...
Sibsagar	4,579	...	4,579	...	...	...	...
Lakhimpur	13,886	339	13,886	339	...	...	...
Total	72,329	932	72,329	932	...	..	...

The whole of the demand was collected during the year. The current demand and collection of Rs. 71 against Nowgong represent the valuation of timber on land paid in advance in 1895-96.

Settlement of waste lands for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules in Cachar.

51. In Cachar five applications for settlement of waste lands for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules* were presented during the year, and eight were pending at the commencement of the year. Of these 13 applications, three were disposed of during the year by settlement of the lands applied for, and ten remained pending at its close. The total area of the three estates settled during the year was 1,193 acres, and their total revenue demand Rs. 1,032.

Waste land taken up in Sylhet under Section III of the Settlement Rules.

52. In Sylhet 57 applications were made under Section III of the Settlement Rules for land required for special cultivation, and 49 applications were pending from the previous year, making a total of 106 cases for disposal. Periodic settlement was effected in one of these cases, and 52 cases were struck off, of which 49 relate to land lying within the Langai and Singla reserve forests, and were struck off pending disposal of the question of disforesting the reserves. In 13 cases orders for the grant of annual leases were issued. Out of the remaining 40 cases, in eight surveys were completed, but not tested before the close of the year; two were pending for disposal of boundary disputes—one was pending disposal of objection made by the proprietor of a permanently-settled estate, and 29 for completion of surveys.

Waste land taken up in the Brahmaputra Valley under Section II of the Settlement Rules.

53. The following statement relates to land taken up in the Brahmaputra Valley districts under Section II of the Settlement Rules for special cultivation:

District.	1896-97.						1897-98.						Existing at the end of 1897-98.			
	Number of leases applied for.		Number of leases granted.				Number of leases applied for.		Number of leases granted.				Total number of leases.			
	Periodic.	Annual.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Periodic.	Annual.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Rs.						Rs.				Rs.
Goalpara	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	192	319
Kamrup	6	...	3	...	66	219	...	...	2	...	14	24	36	...	1,755	2,989
Darrang	6	1	28	3	544	1,124	4	...	11	2	140	258	167	13	11,303	23,417
Nowgong	2	7	2	7	156	172	2	5	2	5	213	404	58	29	3,551	6,697
Sibsagar	31	17	62	6	3,001	6,808	32	2	44	34	2,102	4,404	684	210	58,036	1,31,6 6
Lakhimpur ...	16	...	102	38	2,131	4,459	18	...	50	9	1,224	11,103	389	64	28,401	59,935
Total	62	25	197	54	5,898	12,675	56	7	109	50	3,693	16,493	1,335	316	103,238	2,25,053

* Land is sometimes taken up for tea under these rules. In such case the grant pays full rates as for ordinary cultivation; there is no revenue-free term and no premium for the lease. Also there is no putting up for public sale, which is one reason why this form of lease is sometimes taken in preference to the more favourable 30 years' lease.

The total area of estates of this class has increased by 2,867 acres and their total revenue demand by Rs. 15,384.

Grants under the Rules of 1838.

54. The following statement shows the number, area, and revenue of grants under the Rules of 1838:

District.	1896-97.			1897-98.		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.			Rs.
Kamrup	2	31	67	2	31	67
Sibsagar	16	5,196	8,849	16	5,195	8,847
Total	18	5,227	8,916	18	5,226	8,914

The decrease of 1 acre in area and Rs. 2 in revenue in the Sibsagar district was due to the exclusion of land acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway.

Grants under the Rules of 1854.

55. The statement below gives details as to the grantsheld under the Rules of 1854:

District.	Number of grants.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
			Rs.
Cachar	23	25,926	7,291
Sylhet	3	3,029	852
Kamrup	3	920	259
Darrang	1	293	82
Nowgong	2	469	132
Sibsagar	2	726	204
Total	34	31,363	8,820

Commutation of old-rule grants to fee-simple.

56. The following table shows the old-rule grants commuted to fee-simple and the amount of purchase money realised and remaining to be realised on account of such grants in each district:

District.	Number of grants.	Area, in acres.	Government revenue at the time of commutation.	Price of commutation paid, including part-payment for grants sold for arrears.	Price remaining to be paid.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs.	Rs.	
Cachar	67	136,207	6,660	4,66,681	...
Sylhet	1	2,340	...	7,924	...
Kamrup	20	12,527	80	43,430	...
Darrang	15	6,758	347	27,500	...
Nowgong	13	6,120	294	24,263	...
Sibsagar	111	93,767	2,467	3,41,568	...
Lakhimpur	41	30,230	1,229	1,23,610	...
Total	268	287,949	11,077	10,34,976	...

57. The statement below gives the particulars of fee-simple grants and the amount of purchase money realised on account of such grants in each district :

Fee-simple grants.

District.	Number of grants sold.	Area, in acres.	Price realised		Price remaining to be realised.
			Up to the close of 1896-97.	In 1897-98.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs.		
Cachar	23	9,587	60,150	...	...
Kamrup	17	4,456	19,712	...	...
Darrang	85	45,203	1,53,024	...	...
Nowgong	42	15,229	74,215	...	...
Sibsagar	51	30,877	3,27,292	...	...
Lakhimpur	101	86,601	3,62,502	...	...
Total	319	191,953	9,96,895	...	...

The Sibsagar district shows a decrease of 38 acres in area, which is due to the exclusion of a plot acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway.

58. The following statement gives particulars of all waste land grants taken up in the province under different tenures for the cultivation of tea during the past five years and of those existing at the end of the year under report :

Waste land taken up for tea-planting during the past five years and altogether up to the end of 1897-98.

Class of tenure.	Number and area of grants taken up in										Total, 1st April 1898.	
	1893-94.		1894-95.		1895-96.		1896-97.		1897-98.			
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I.—Thirty-year lease rules ...	27	4,769	32	8,913	25	18,529	37	8,421	76	24,240	802	301,295
II.—Leases under the ordinary Settlement Rules of Assam Proper.	175	12,281	71	7,889	182	5,209	251	5,898	159	3,693	1,651	103,238
III.—Ordinary reclamation leases taken for tea-planting in Cachar and Sylhet.	13	1,480	6	812	7	781	3	189	9	1,193	602	115,919
IV.—Leases under the modified *Ilam* Rules, Sylhet.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	26,317
V.—Grants under Old Rules of 1838	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	5,226
VI. Ditto ditto 1854	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	31,363
VII.—Grants redeemed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	268	287,949
VIII.—Fee-simple grants ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	319	191,953
Total	215	18,530	109	17,614	214	24,519	291	14,508	244	29,126	3,755	1,063,260

SECTION VIII.

WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

59. As in the preceding year, the attached estate of Maulvi Mahammed Ahiya remained under the management of the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet. As there was no proper rent-roll, the tenants resisted, and still resist to some extent, paying the rent, which was not based on any written agreement with them. Some of the tenants deny the title of the estate to the land held by them, and claim it as belonging to certain rent-free tenures. A *jamabandi* (rent-roll) has been prepared during the year, but a number of the tenants object to pay at the *jamabandi* rates. A survey of the estate is under contemplation, and when this is effected, the position of the estate and that of the tenants will be more definitely settled.

The current demand of the estate amounted to Rs. 27,391, against Rs. 27,613 in the preceding year. The arrear demand on the 1st April 1897 was Rs 22,292. Subsequent enquiries resulted in certain additions and reductions which brought the corrected arrear demand to Rs. 20,969. The collections on account of rental of the estate amounted to Rs. 19,802 (current Rs. 14,255 and arrears Rs. 5,547), or 40·04 per cent. of the total demand. In addition to this, a sum of Rs. 2,624 was collected as advance payment and miscellaneous receipts. The debts of the estate outstanding on the 1st April 1897 amounted to Rs. 73,468, to which Rs. 5,830 were added during the year as interest, making a total of Rs. 79,298. The total debts were reduced during the year by Rs. 11,038, or 13·92 per cent., of which Rs. 8,956 were paid out of the receipts, and Rs. 2,082 were remitted by the creditors, leaving Rs. 68,260 to be liquidated. After defraying all expenses on account of management, maintenance of the proprietors, Government revenue, etc., a balance of Rs. 3,790-2-6 was left at credit of the estate at the close of the year.

SECTION IX.

LOCAL RATES.

60. Local rates continue to be assessed under the Assam Local Rates Regulation on the different descriptions of landed property in the plains districts in the same manner as in previous years.

Assessment.

The total current demand of the year under report amounted to Rs. 6,44,908, against Rs. 6,41,156 in 1896-97, being an increase of Rs. 3,752, or ·58 per cent., which was contributed to by all the districts, except Nowgong. The increase in the land revenue demand was ·58 per cent. Hence the increase of the local rates which vary in the same proportion. The statement below shows the demand assessed for the year on estates of different descriptions in each district :

District.	Permanently-settled estates.	Temporarily-settled estates.	Waste land grants.	Revenue-free estates.	Total.	Increase + or decrease −, as compared with the demand for 1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	...	21,658	9,076	132	30,866	+ 399
Sylhet	1,97,297	16,432	3,464	3,897	2,21,090	+ 959
Goalpara	54,770	6,144	11	875	61,800	+ 110
Kamrup	...	1,01,749	970	6,221	1,08,940	+ 399
Darrang	...	43,613	5,071	1,151	49,835	+ 976
Nowgong	...	34,883	2,710	439	38,032	— 2,867
Sibsagar	...	78,267	14,620	2,315	95,202	+ 2,366
Lakhimpur	...	27,760	10,826	557	39,143	+ 1,410
Total	2,52,067	3,30,506	46,748	15,587	6,44,908	+ 3,752

In Sylhet there was a decrease of Rs. 20 under the permanently-settled estates, due to revision of assessment. The decrease in Nowgong resulted from the falling-off in the revenue demand of the district, the causes of which have been explained in Section II of this Report.

The assessment on the permanently-settled estates in Goalpara decreased by Rs. 17 on account of the separate assessment on six rent-free holdings which were formerly included in the zamindari estates, but which have now been declared *lakhiraj* and treated as independent estates.

The rule regarding the annual and quinquennial revision of the assessment of local rates on *lakhiraj* and fee-simple estates in the Brahmaputra Valley was not brought into operation in the year in all the districts of the valley, and there was, therefore, considerable diversity as to the basis of assessment. To ensure uniformity in future, the attention of Deputy Commissioners has been invited to the rule, and they will be asked to follow it strictly.

Demand, collections, remissions and balances.

61. The following statement shows the demand (current and arrear), collections, remissions, and balances on account of local rates in each district for the last two years:

District.	Demands.				Collections.				Remissions.		Balances.			
	1896-97.		1897-98.		1896-97.		1897-98.				1896-97.		1897-98.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	1896-97.	1897-98.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	30,467	929	30,866	855	29,643	928	30,105	854	1	...	824	...	762	1
Sylhet	1,20,131	869	2,21,090	708	2,19,421	795	2,18,417	524	3	32*	710	71	2,671	154
Goalpara	61,690	1	61,800	11	61,688	1	61,795	10	...	1†	2	...	5	...
Kamrup	1,08,541	4,381	1,08,940	3,310	1,05,254	4,224	1,06,162	2,326	109	90†	3,274	61	2,778	984
Darrang	48,859	1,170	49,835	938	47,927	1,032	47,932	787	72	38‡	930	8	1,901	115
Nowgong	40,899	5,526	38,032	5,016	37,441	3,974	32,184	1,924	25	7†	3,433	1,552	5,848	3,085
Sibsagar	92,836	6,621	95,202	9,769	84,748	5,170	89,925	7,675	26	123†	8,088	1,425§	5,277	1,971
Lakhimpur	37,733	514	39,143	2,794	35,270	514	37,551	2,619	...	1†	2,463	...	1,592	174
Total	6,41,156	20,011	6,44,908	23,431	5,21,392	16,698	5,24,071	16,719	236	292‖	19,724	3,117	20,833	6,424

	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
* {Current	2	‡ {Current	2	§ {Current	4
{Arrear	30	{Arrear	36	{Arrear	288
Total	32	Total	38	Total	292

† Arrears.

The balance outstanding on the 31st March 1897 was Rs. 22,841. Subsequent revisions, with restrospective effect, raised the arrear demand to Rs. 23,431. The total demand of the year, including arrears, amounted to Rs. 6,68,339, of which a sum of Rs. 6,40,790 (Rs. 6,24,071 current and Rs. 16,719 arrears), or 95·88 per cent., was collected, Rs. 292, or ·04 per cent., was remitted, and Rs. 27,257, or 4·08 per cent., remained unrealised at the end of the year. Of the latter sum, Rs. 13,335 have since been realised or remitted, Rs. 106 found to be irrecoverable, and the balance is in course of recovery.

SECTION X.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rules and Regulations.

62. During the year, rules under sections 12, 29 and 155 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulations for the leasing of town lands in Assam were issued. Rules 15, 48 and 81 of the Settlement Rules issued under sections 12 and 29 were also amended.

63. The statement below shows the area of, and the compensation paid for, land taken up for public purposes during 1897-98 :

Acquisition of land for public purposes.

District.	Area taken.				Compensation paid.		
	A.	r.	p.	yds.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cachar	75	0	1	0	6,013	11	3
Sylhet	253	1	15	0	72,289	0	0
Kamrup	23	3	26	0	21,308	12	9
Nowgong	24	0	6	12$\frac{1}{10}$	1,156	0	0
Sibsagar	111	0	0	0	19,888	0	0
Total	487	1	8	12$\frac{1}{10}$	1,20,655	8	0*

* Besides this, a sum of Rs. 245 was awarded to the Dehing Gossain as compensation for 10·58 acres of *lakhiraj* land acquired some five years ago by the Department of Public Works for improving the Kamalabari road in the North Lakhimpur subdivision.

The purposes for which land was acquired in the different districts are specified in Statement No. XVIII in the Appendix.

In Cachar an area of 14·72 acres was acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway, at a cost of Rs. 1,904, or at the rate of Rs. 129 per acre, and 48 acres were acquired for a road at a cost of Rs. 3,269, or Rs. 68 per acre.

In Sylhet 37 acres were acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway, at a cost of Rs. 63,394, or at the rate of Rs. 1,713 per acre. The high price paid was due to the fact that land under tea was acquired. For seven roads in the same district, 205·71 acres were acquired at an aggregate cost of Rs. 6,346, or Rs. 31 per acre.

In the Brahmaputra Valley the only important acquisition was that of 83 acres taken up for the Assam-Bengal Railway in the Sibsagar district. The total amount of compensation paid for land acquired in this district was Rs. 19,888, or Rs. 179 per acre.

64. No partition was effected in Cachar during the year. In Sylhet, at the commencement of the year, 13 partition cases were pending from the preceding year, and 28 were instituted during the year. Of these 41 cases, 16 were disposed of and 25 remained pending at its close.

Partition of estates.

The following statement shows the number of partition cases instituted and disposed of in the several districts of the Brahmaputra Valley during the year:

District.	Pending at the close of 1896-97.	Instituted during 1897-98.	Disposed of during 1897-98.	Balance on 31st March 1898.
1	2	3	4	5
Goalpara	...	...	...	...
Kamrup	74	67	79	62
Darrang	4	6	9	1
Nowgong	1	1	...	2
Sibsagar	76	107	54	129
Lakhimpur	7	43	45	5
Total	162	224	187	199

Of the 187 cases disposed of, 183 were for perfect and 4 for imperfect partitions.

The following figures show the number of partition cases disposed of in the several districts of this division in each year since 1893-94 :

Year.	No.
1893-94	123
1894-95	141
1895-96	222
1896-97	185
1897-98	187

65. No sales of proprietary rights in Government estates took place during the year.

Sale of proprietary rights in Government estates.

66. The table below shows the number of mutation cases instituted during the year as compared with the preceding year :

Registration of estates and mutation cases.

District.	Number of mutation cases instituted in		Increase.	Decrease.
	1896-97.	1897-98.		
1	2	3	4	5
Cachar	20,613	5,574	...	15,039
Sylhet	13,409	4,902	...	8,507
Goalpara	6	1	...	5
Kamrup	4,387	3,064	...	1,323
Darrang	1,618	1,594	...	24
Nowgong	905	801	...	104
Sibsagar	3,674	3,908	234	...
Lakhimpur	830	855	25	...
Total	45,442	20,699	259	25,002
Net Decrease	.....	.....	— 24,743	

The cases instituted in the Cachar district have decreased considerably in consequence of the approaching completion of the resettlement of the district. The decrease in Sylhet in the number of cases instituted is due to the fact that a large number of cases were instituted in the preceding year for the registration of transfers which had taken place during the interval between the survey of the Jaintia Parganas and their resettlement.

In the Brahmaputra Valley there was a decrease in the number of cases instituted in all the districts, except Sibsagar and Lakhimpur. In the Kamrup district the number of institutions shows a marked decrease in comparison with that in the preceding year, and is due to the earthquake and floods. The falling-off in Darrang is attributed to the prevalence of *kalá-ázár*, which has put a stop to sale and purchase of lands. In Nowgong it is due partly to the fact that in a large number of cases the heirs of the deceased landholders preferred to resign their ancestral holdings and to retake them in their own name, and partly to Rule 35 of the Rules for the proper maintenance of settlement maps and records not having been strictly enforced during the year under report. The strict enforcement of this rule accounts for the improvement in the Sibsagar and Lakhimpur districts.

The statement below shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of :

District.	Pending on 1st April 1897.	Instituted during 1897-98.	Total for disposal.	Disposed of during 1897-98.	Pending on 31st March 1898.	Number of estates subject to mutation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	7,034*	5,574	12,608	5,677	6,931	11,954
Sylhet	6,785	4,902	11,687	9,317	2,370	98,219
Goalpara	4	1	5	1	4	89
Kamrup	869	3,064	4,933	3,686	1,247	80,111
Darrang	320	1,594	1,914	1,678	236	43,574
Nowgong	356	801	1,157	950	207	42,273
Sibsagar	801	3,908	4,709	3,779	930	88,487
Lakhimpur... ...	110	855	965	851	114	21,656
Total	17,279*	20,699	37,978	25,939	12,039	386,363

* Revised.

Including the number of cases disposed of in the course of cadastral survey and settlement, the total number of cases disposed of during the year was 25,939.

The statement below shows the proportion borne in each of the five upper districts of the Assam Valley by the number of mutation cases instituted to the total number of estates subject to mutation (*i.e.*, estates of proprietors and landholders) during the past two years:

District.	1896-97. Per cent.	1897-98. Per cent.
Kamrup	7·23	3·82
Darrang	3·73	3·66
Nowgong	2·37	1·89
Sibsagar	4·42	4·42
Lakhimpur	3·74	3·95

During the year under report, the percentage of applications for mutation in the Nowgong district was 1·89, in the Golaghat subdivision 2·70, and in all other subdivisions, except Jorhat and Dibrugarh, the percentage was less than 4.

These figures show that the subject of enforcing registration has not received proper attention.

Registration of tenures in Sylhet.

67. In Sylhet 21 *patni* tenures, covering an area of 1,054 acres, were registered under section 55 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation during the year.

Tahsils in the Brahmaputra Valley.

68. No new tahsil was opened during the year in any district. The table below shows the settled area, land revenue demand, and population of tahsils in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley at the close of the year:

District.	Settled area, in acres.	Land revenue.	Local rates.	Total revenue.	Population.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Goalpara	25,975	33,984	2,172	36,156	25,746
Kamrup	491,385·17	11,75,064	79,988	12,55,052	569,885
Darrang	171,540	4,65,635	29,085	4,94,720	214,122
Nowgong... ...	81,754·93	2,32,242	14,566	2,46,808	132,256
Sibsagar	223,330	6,20,575	39,098	6,59,673	185,806
Lakhimpur ...	39,929	1,14,797	7,210	1,22,007	58,735
Total	1,033,914·10	26,42,297	1,72,119	28,14,416	1,186,550

The settled area of the whole division at the close of the year, excluding the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district, amounted to 2,472,538 acres; the settled area comprised in tahsils amounts to 1,033,914 acres, so that tahsils now include 41·81 per cent. of the whole settled area.

Agricultural advances and recoveries.

69. During the year under report, rules under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XII of 1884, were issued by the Chief Commissioner. During the year a sum of Rs. 2,482 was advanced under the Act, without interest, to agriculturists in distress in the Jaintia Parganas and other parts of Sylhet. No portion of the advance was repayable within the year. No agricultural advances were made in any other plains districts of the province during the year.

Out of the annual grant of Rs. 500 placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills, as a permanent advance for the purpose of making loans to enable the Garos to tide over temporary difficulties, a sum of Rs. 160 was advanced during the year. The amount of advances of previous years outstanding on the 1st April 1897 was Rs. 665, of the total outstanding advances (Rs. 825), Rs. 324 on account of principal and Rs. 23-5-8 on account of interest was realised, leaving a balance of Rs. 501, exclusive of interest, outstanding at the close of the year.

Process-fees.

70. The amount of process-fees realised in the province during the year was Rs. 73,528, against Rs. 72,665 in the preceding year. The increase mainly occurred in the Surma Valley districts, and partly also in Darrang and Lakhimpur districts. The Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts, reports that the fees realised in the Goalpara, Gauhati, and Golaghat subdivisions, and in the districts of Darrang and Nowgong, do not cover the cost of establishment. Compensation allowance for dearness of provisions given to the permanent peons is reported to have raised the cost of establishment to some extent.

By order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. C. HENNIKER,

Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Shillong,

The 10th December 1898.

STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT No. I

Showing the Rainfall of Assam for the four years ending 1897-98 *and the comparative average of five years ending* 1895-96, 1896-97, *and* 1897-98.

No. of station.	District or subdivisional rain-gauge station.	Average of five years ending 1895-96.	Average of five years ending 1896-97.	Average of five years ending 1897-98.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
1	Silchar	144·23	142·27	131·10	167·09	133·38	98·37	105·72
2	Hailakandi	121·10	122·56	114·44	131·29	110·15	95·86	101·44
3	Haflong	58·82	64·08	70·93	66·42	66·53	61·96	96·45
4	Karimganj	163·31	161·41	148·02	174·49	148·33	124·48	120·02
5	South Sylhet	110·82	107·33	104·64	104·17	114·66	77·03	113·77
6	North Sylhet	165·31	167·40	156·47	176·48	141·46	128·63	143·55
7	Habiganj	100·14	99·26	96·53	90·27	99·77	89·48	87·77
8	Sunamganj*	228·69	222·18	191·00	212·38	200·07	153·07	164·48
9	Dhubri	96·77	97·93	93·84	81·87	116·59	78·13	102·95
10	Goalpara	85·71	87·60	84·65	89·95	86·91	69·79	90·40
11	Barpeta	94·00	96·47	97·25	118·56	97·78	81·50	104·71
12	Gauhati	60·56	65·41	63·84	73·09	64·22	70·85	61·19
13	Mangaldai	64·90	62·91	66·27	75·77	48·23	50·02	92·09
14	Tezpur	67·50	67·79	68·04	86·18	55·70	61·57	66·48
15	Nowgong	65·98	66·45	62·39	69·86	62·79	58·81	55·49
16	Golaghat	80·85	86·36	85·71	90·23	64·53	100·04	102·40
17	Jorhat	76·85	76·26	79·63	80·39	67·47	81·99	92·88
18	Sibsagar	98·51	97·92	99·06	101·17	113·53	92·82	105·72
19	North Lakhimpur ...	135·15	132·86	129·82	165·85	118·44	118·86	138·80
20	Dibrugarh	114·31	114·85	107·99	130·96	111·94	101·58	103·95
21	Mokokchang	101·26	98·02	92·44	102·31	93·93	91·74	81·52
22	Kohima	82·64	77·00	74·02	86·78	76·45	61·12	58·37
23	Jowai	170·72	132·75	133·13	117·86	153·44	80·26	142·32
24	Shillong†	79·81	76·88	77·76	68·97	89·39	54·17	84·96
25	Cherrapunji‡	417·45	408·92	399·39	379·44	370·29	308·03	457·45
26	Tura	125·85	123·72	119·49	110·83	109·00	114·75	128·01
27	Aijal	...	...	...	...	88·19	70·69	74·76

* Rainfall not recorded from the 13th June to 10th July 1897 in consequence of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897.

† Rainfall not recorded from the 13th to 26th June 1897 in consequence of the earthquake.

‡ Rainfall not recorded from the 13th to 19th June in consequence of the earthquake.

STATEMENT No. IIA.

District Crop Statement of the several districts in the Brahmaputra Valley for the year 1897-98.

District.	Cereals and pulses.									Oilseeds.			Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Fibres.			Dyes.		Drugs and narcotics.			Fodder crops.	*Basti* and garden crops not shown in the preceding columns.	Miscellaneous crops.		Total crops (including *basti*).	Total double-cropped area.	Net area cropped during the year.	Fallow.
	Rice seedlings.	*Ahu* (early) rice.	*Sali* (late) rice.	*Báo* (late) rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.	Gram.	Other food-grains, including pulses.	Mustard.	Linseed.	*Til.*			Cotton.	Jute.	Other fibres.	Indigo.	Other dyes.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.			Food.	Non-food.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara ...	1,947	15,980	40,074	669	...	...	38	...	1,208	8,327	...	70	...	71	23	605	18	...	3	...	410	103	675	5,366	284	...	74,972	8,940	66,032	4,500
Kamrup ...	12,657	183,575	188,799	7[illegible],492	...	...	5	15	13,547	68,171	3	955	49	3,748	105	417	1,[illegible]28	...	158	...	5,873	49[illegible]	500	52,[illegible]39	3,649	2,843	617,733	81,451	536,282	142,005
Darrang ...	5,484	36,787	147,746	2,871	...	...	9	2	8,743	11,874	...	28	52	1,912	6	51	197	...	1	...	33,984	100	6	27,358	840	2,529	280,387	12,244	268,343	133,821
Nowgong ...	1,935	53,629	67,418	29,798	3	20	369	108	13,080	45,595	32	1,869	11	1,881	1,900	37	150	4	...	...	12,659	153	15	23,561	692	1,405	256,264	37,762	218,502	69,688
Sibsagar ...	14,667	20,474	260,837	1,478	3	6	10	1	11,587	18,804	1	9	13	6,127	4	31	38	...	...	...	70,644	219	211	52,05[illegible]	1,336	18,642	477,161	18,241	459,020	242,539
Lakhimpur ...	6,572	13,863	93,324	1,392	...	...	2	...	3,267	2,534	...	4	1	2,245	159	15	...	...	...	...	55,560	21	37	18,363	3,513	4,385	205,857	2,927	202,930	143,108
Total	42,362	324,308	798,858	114,507	6	35	433	126	51,432	155,305	36	2,935	133	15, 84	2,197	1,157	1,431	4	162	...	17[illegible],130	1,094	1,444	179,436	10,314	29,804	1,922,674	168,565	1,751,109	725,849

STATEMENT No. IIB,

Cadastral Crop Statement of surveyed districts in the Province of Assam for the year 1897-98.

District.	Cereals and pulses.									Oil-seeds.			Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Fibres.			Dyes.		Drugs and narcotics.			Fodder crops.	*Bastí* and garden crops not shown in the preceding columns.	Miscellaneous crops.		Total crops (including *bastí*).	Total double-cropped area.	Net area cropped during the year.	*Khiraj* fallow.	*Nisf* and *lakhiraj* and grants fallow.	Government waste.	Grand total of village.
	Rice seedlings.	*Ahu* or *aus* (early) rice.	*Sali* or *ash* (late) rice.	*Bao* or *aman* (late) rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.	Gram.	Other food-grains, including pulses.	Mustard.	Linseed.	*Til.*			Cotton.	Jute.	Other fibres.	Indigo.	Other dyes.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.			Food.	Non-food.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Cachar	12,238	46,00	110,971	13,407	4	5	29	67	4,810	6,4	17	428	1,500	1,308	26	321	49	...	...	92	61,190	159	...	21,875	1,652	7,946	292,770	35,694	257,076	181,774	154,933	62,431	656,194
Sylhet { Pratabgarh	658	4,127	12,502	910	...	...	...	2	296	425	26	1	18	877	...	...	1	...	...	...	13,845	6	65	2,122	93	263	36,637	5,707	30,930	5,961	18,025	20,529	76,345
Sylhet { Ilam estates	685	957	5,919	6,016	...	3	3	6	4	265	705	13	...	167	...	11	...	...	...	...	7,119	1	980	1,105	35	1,096	25,293	695	24,598	20,288	...	11,446	66,332
Sylhet { Jaintia ...	1,832	29,458	30,605	46,875	...	...	...	...	283	3,151	2,436	1	83	3	...	5	91	...	...	...	4,250	2	2,389	16,120	456	3,140	132,213	17,708	114,505	90,378	8,202	96,747	309,832
Goalpara ...	874	7,581	17,475	310	...	...	9	...	505	4,826	...	45	...	67	1	193	2	...	...	...	...	82	...	2,643	102	...	34,215	4,946	29,769	2,497	...	94,664	126,930
Kamrup ...	12,021	161,761	171,170	76,038	...	...	5	15	12,361	56,726	3	671	42	3,652	96	361	701	...	125	...	774	447	492	50,016	3,184	2,701	553,562	67,930	485,632	45,910	82,971	644,550	1,259,063
Darrang ...	5,286	34,136	129,610	2,611	...	...	6	2	7,82	6,485	...	28	59	1,777	6	36	174	...	1	...	6,554	88	5	25,601	763	1,981	223,065	8,786	214,277	16,659	31,633	358,615	621,207
Nowgong ...	1,923	43,69	62,799	29,514	3	20	6	108	13,021	40,575	32	490	10	1,873	1	37	129	...	...	...	6,156	25	15	21,615	693	1,405	224,370	35,779	188,591	24,926	14,490	482,876	710,813
Sibsagar ...	14,529	13,765	259,871	1,300	3	6	1	1	10,725	13,040	1	9	10	6,013	4	30	37	...	...	...	75,058	214	211	51,569	1,261	17,034	465,700	14,794	450,906	58,946	124,122	461,100	1,010,074
Lakhimpur ...	4,688	4,519	58,288	1,152	...	...	1	...	2,087	610	...	2	1	269	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,857	19	28	12,237	264	2,168	92,181	2,111	97,070	9,685	15,317	70,474	192,546
Total	54,735	337,148	856,618	178,233	10	34	62	201	52,123	139,437	3,382	1,688	1,723	9,006	134	958	1,184	...	126	22	191,113	1,209	4,146	204,903	8,507	37,734	2,087,504	194,150	1,893,354	462,024	450,543	2,303,415	5,109,336

STATEMENT No. III

Showing the Average Prices of "Matikalai" (Phaseolus radiatus), Mustard, and Raw Sugar in the Brahmaputra Valley during the past two years.

Station.	Matikalai (Phaseolus radiatus), per maund.						Mustard, per maund.						Raw Sugar, per maund.					
	1896-97.			1897-98.			1896-97.			1897-98.			1896-97.			1897-98.		
1	2			3			4			5			6			7		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Dhubri	2	12	0	3	12	0	4	0	0	4	8	0	6	4	0	6	8	0
Goalpára	2	4	0	3	14	0	4	0	0	3	13	6	5	8	0	5	14	0
Barpeta	2	11	0	4	0	0	3	8	0	3	2	0	6	0	0	6	8	0
Gauhati	2	12	6	3	15	0	4	5	9	4	2	0	7	2	9	6	6	0
Mangaldai	3	8	0	3	12	0	3	8	0	3	12	0	6	0	0	10	0	0
Tezpur	3	8	0	4	10	0	3	12	0	3	14	0	7	0	0	8	0	0
Nowgong	2	11	0	3	15	0	3	10	9	3	10	9	6	12	10	6	15	8
Golaghat	3	14	0	4	14	0	3	8	0	3	8	0	6	0	0	6	0	0
Jorhat	3	10	0	4	10	0	3	2	0	3	4	0	9	8	0	10	0	0
Sibsagar	3	7	0	4	10	0	4	0	0	3	10	0	7	0	0	6	10	0
North Lakhimpur	3	4	0	5	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	7	8	0	6	0	0
Dibrugarh	3	0	4	4	5	2	3	13	6	3	12	0	5	13	4	5	12	0

STATEMENT No. IV.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Ordinary Land Revenue, including Malikana of Estates on the Revenue Roll during 1897-98.

District.	Number of estates.	Demands.			Collections.			Remissions.	Net balances.			Distribution of balances.		Percentage.					Payment in advance on account of the ensuing year.
		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Doubtful and irrecoverable.	In process of recovery.	Collections (column 8) on demand (column 5).	Remissions (column 9) on demand (column 3).	Total uncollected balances (column 12 on demand (column 5).	Doubtful and irrecoverable balances (column 13) on demand (column 5).	Recoverable balances (column 14) on demand (column 5).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.						Rs.
Cachar	11,954	3,56,116	15,224	3,71,340	3,40,085	15,056	3,56,041	...	15,131	168	15,299	...	15,209	95·88	...	4·12	...	4·12	756
Sylhet ... { Temporarily settled	55,823	3,37,757	7,030	3,44,787	2,90,647	3,002	3,03,633	657*	38,016	2,405	40,491	113	40,378	88·07	·19	11·74	·03	11·71	50,115
{ Permanently settled	49,900	5,65,883	200	3,66,083	3,75,674	185	3,75,859	1†	215	13	228	...	228	99·94	·0003	·06	...	·06	56,072
Total	105,723	7,03,646	7,230	7,10,876	6,65,321	4,178	6,69,499	658* †	38,201	2,418	40,719	113	40,606	94·18	·09	5·73	·02	5·71	1,06,587
Goalpara ... { Temporarily settled	17,509	96,308	138	96,536	96,298	126	96,424	9†	100	3	103	100	3	99·88	·003	·10	·10	·003	18
{ Permanently settled	19	11,411	...	11,411	11,411	...	11,411	...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
Total	17,528	1,07,809	138	1,07,947	1,07,709	126	1,07,835	9†	100	3	103	100	3	99·90	·008	·09	·09	·002	18
Kamrup	184,583	13,59,190	1,691	13,70,881	13,53,114	17,623	13,70,737	1,325†	22,876	742	23,618	1,696	21,922	98·70	·10	1·71	·12	1·59	1,038
Darrang	116,932	6,83,444	17,614	7,01,058	6,83,482	14,455	6,97,937	604‡	25,927	2,510	28,517	231	28,286	95·88	·03	4·03	·03	4·00	29
Nowgong	120,440	5,70,058	96,860	6,66,918	4,77,129	45,477	5,22,606	1,911†	92,529	40,432	1,32,961	8,091	1,33,870	78·57	·29	21·43	1·21	2·01	...
Sibsagar	178,057	12,81,216	81,455	13,62,701	11,65,764	66,125	12,32,689	2,057†	1,15,382	12,463	1,27,845	678	1,27,267	90·46	·15	9·06	·05	9·34	226
Lakhimpur	65,049	4,57,830	13,319	4,73,148	4,18,662	11,849	4,30,511	193	40,158	1,460	41,618	...	41,618	91·20	·004	8·84	...	8·84	...
Naga Hills	371	1,836	...	1,836	1,826	...	1,826	...	10	...	10	...	10	99·45	...	·54	...	·54	...
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	1,691	8,914	1,646	10,560	6,481	1,646	8,127	...	2,433	...	2,433	...	2,433	77·17	...	23·04	...	23·04	24
Garo Hills ... { Temporarily settled	5,441	22,003	958	22,961	18,583	437	19,020	457†	3,420	64	3,484	...	3,484	82·42	1·99	15·17	...	15·17	...
{ Permanently settled	1	12	...	12	12	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
Total	5,442	22,015	958	22,973	18,595	437	19,032	457†	3,420	64	3,484	...	3,484	82·41	1·99	15·17	...	15·17	...
Total temporarily settled ...	763,380	51,83,591	2,53,935	54,37,526	48,27,371	1,77,586	50,04,957	7,030¶	3,56,152	69,327	4,25,479	10,909	4,14,570	2·04	·13	7·82	·20	7·62	52,606
Total permanently settled ...	49,920	3,77,312	200	3,77,512	3,77,097	186	3,77,283	1†	215	13	228	...	228	99·94	·0003	·06	...	·06	56,072
Grand total	813,780	55,60,903	2,54,135	58,15,038	52,04,468	1,77,772	53,82,240	7,091¶	3,56,367	69,340	4,25,707	10,909	4,14,798	92·56	·12	7·32	·19	7·13	1,08,678

* { Current ... Rs. 24 / Arrear ... Rs. 633 / Total ... Rs. 657

† Arrear.

‡ { Current ... Rs. 35 / Arrear ... Rs. 569 / Total ... Rs. 604

§ { Current ... Rs. 9 / Arrear ... Rs. 10 / Total ... Rs. 19

¶ { Current ... Rs. 68 / Arrear ... Rs. 7,022 / Total ... Rs. 7,090

¶ { Current ... Rs. 68 / Arrear ... Rs. 7,023 / Total ... Rs. 7,091

STATEMENT No. V.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Miscellaneous Land Revenue during the year 1897-98.

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Cachar.								Sylhet.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	1		2		3	4		5	6		7		8	9		10
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	700	..	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Royalty on elephants	5,300	..	4,000	..	..	1,300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Fisheries	6,527	50	6,178	50	..	349	..	1,810	58,318	3,116	48,683	1,793	1,363(a)	9,595	..	9,979
4. Poll-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,491	117	1,894	96	13(b)	597	2	640
5. House-tax	8,060	..	8,048	..	..	12	..	..	18	..	14	..	..	4	..	..
6. Lime-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Stone-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Salt-wells	31	..	31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Gold-washing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sales of Government estates	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	302	..	302	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)	1,017	..	1,017	..	..	..	..	..	397	..	397	..	..	..	..	..
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81	..	81	..	..	..	..	..
16 Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	2,005	101	2,005	101	..	..	..	..	1,687	..	1,687	..	..	..	..	..
Total	23,945	151	22,285	151	..	1,661	..	1,810	62,993	3,233	53,756	1,889	1,387(c)	10,196	2	10,919
Total (both current and arrear)	24,097		22,436		..	1,661		..	66,225		54,645		1,382(c)	10,198		..
Percentage	..		93·11			6·89		..	..		82·51		2·09	15·40		..

(a) Current .. Rs. 40; Arrear .. Rs. 1,323; Total .. Rs. 1,363

(b) Arrear.

(c) Current .. Rs. 40; Arrear .. Rs. 1,342; Total .. Rs. 1,382

STATEMENT No. V.—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Goalpara.								Kamrup.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	11		12		13	14		15	16		17		18	19		20
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	4,500	..	4,500	..	..	..	..	..	850	..	850	..	..	..	..	..
2. Royalty on elephants	6,100	..	6,100	..	..	..	..	..	600	200	600	200	..	..	..	..
3. Fisheries	2,127	167	2,126	167	..	1	..	433	22,409	1	20,482	1	..	1,927	..	2,159
4. Poll-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. House-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,084	10	986	..	16(a)	98	..	..
6. Lime-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Stone-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Salt-wells	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Gold-washing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sales of Government estates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	1,568	..	1,568	..	..	..	..	..	2,115	..	2,115	..	..	..	..	..
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)	3,212	..	3,212	..	..	..	..	..	234	..	234	..	..	..	..	..
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	453	..	453	..	..	..	..	..
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	67	..	67	..	..	..	..	..	1,179	..	1,179	..	..	..	..	..
Total	17,574	167	17,573	167	..	1	..	433	28,024	211	26,859	201	16 (a)	2,025	..	2,159
Total (both current and arrear)	17,741		17,740		..	1		..	29,135		27,100		16(b)	2,025		..
Percentage	..		99·99		..	·05		..	..		93·02		·03	6·95		..

(a) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. V—*con inued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Darrang.								Nowgong.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	21		22		23	24		25	26		27		28	29		30
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	1,630	165	1,254	15	...	336	150	...	1,264	86	1,264	86	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	2,800	...	2,500	...	...	400	...	...	3,800	200	3,800	200	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	7,228	1,183	4,834	527	33(a)	2,055	656	758	10,329	1,198	10,013	573	625(b)	316	...	1,877
4. Poll tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,859	205	8,403	188	17(b)	456	...	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	7,038	...	7,038	...	...	...	...	...	243	...	243	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation) ...	6,825	...	6,895	...	...	...	...	...	228	...	228	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	448	...	448	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other Miscellaneous items not specified above	113	...	113	...	...	...	...	...	129	...	129	...	...	...	...	...
Total	26,212	1,348	23,082	542	339(d)	2,791	806	758	24,852	1,689	24,080	1,047	642(b)	772	...	1,877
Total (both current and arrear) ...	27,560		23,624		339(a)	3,597		...	26,541		25,127		642(b)	772		...
[redacted]																
Percentage	...		85·72		1·23	13·05		...	...		94·67		2·42	2·91		...

(a) Current. (b) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Sibsagar.								Lakhimpur.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	31		32		33	34		35	36		37		38	39		40
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,570	..	4,570	..	..	..	..	..
2. Royalty on elephants	600	800	600	800	..	..	..	..	5,700	..	5,700	..	..	..	..	400
3. Fisheries	31,695	..	31,430	..	..	175	..	4,816	6,326	..	6,326	..	..	..	..	464
4. Poll-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,817	39	11,817	39	..	..	..	..
5. House-tax	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Lime-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Stone-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	283	..	283	..	..	..	..	..	37,920	..	37,920	..	..	..	..	..
9. Salt-wells	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Gold-washing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sales of Government estates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	7,584	..	7,584	..	..	..	..	..	5,988	..	5,988	..	..	..	..	..
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)	4,232	..	4,232	..	..	..	..	..	8,011	..	8,011	..	..	..	..	..
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	259	..	259	..	..	..	..	..	77	..	77	..	..	..	..	..
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	330	..	330	..	..	..	..	..	129	..	129	..	..	..	..	..
Total	45,593	800	45,118	800	..	175	..	4,816	80,538	39	80,538	39	..	..	..	864
Total (both current and arrear) ..	46,393		46,218		..	175		..	80,577		80,577		..	..		..
Percentage	..		99·62		..	·38		..	..		100·00		..	..		..

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Naga Hills.								Khasi and Jaintia Hills.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	41		42		43	44		45	6		47		48	49		50
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	2,050	..	1,537	..	..	513	..	..	1,155	31	729	31	..	426	..	..
2. Royalty on elephants	5,300	1,800	3,000	1,800	..	3,300	..	..	1,100	500	900	380	..	200	..	..
3. Fisheries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,125	..	4,805	..	..	320	..	..
4. Poll-tax	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. House-tax	67,046	..	66,829	..	..	217	..	..	26,406	..	21,788	..	..	4,618	..	..
6. Lime-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,539	..	8,539	..	..	..	..	..
7. Stone-quarries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	502	27	502	27	..	..	..	..	321	160	278	160	..	43	..	106
9. Salt-wells	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Gold-washing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sales of Government estates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation) ..	1,500	..	1,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	25	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	100	..	..	..	..	..
Total	76,423	1,827	73,393	1,827	..	4,030	..	..	42,746	691	37,139	691	..	5,607	..	106
Total (both current and arrear) ..	78,250		74,220		..	4,030		..	43,437		37,830		..	5,607		..
Percentage	..		94·85		..	5·15		..	..		87·09		..	12·91		..

STATEMENT No. V—*concluded.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Garo Hills.								Total.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	51		52		53	54		55	56		57		58	59		60
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,719	282	15,444	132	...	1,275	150	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,300	3,500	26,100	3,500	...	5,200	...	400
3. Fisheries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	162	1,51,168	5,715	1,26,051	3,111	2,327 (*b*)	14,738	656	22,258
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,308	156	13,711	135	19(*a*)	597	2	640
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	20(*a*)	161	43	...	1,50,140	329	1,44,574	239	47(*a*)	5,566	43	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,539	...	8,539	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,026	187	38,783	187	...	43	...	106
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	...	31	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24,898	...	24,898	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,426	...	26,426	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81	...	81	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	789	...	789	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	448	...	448	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	...	...	1,358	...	...	...	...	...	7,122	101	7,122	101	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	41,039	51	20(*a*)	161	43	162	4,70,991	10,270	4,43,701	7,405	2,393(*c*)	27,419	851	23,404
Total (both current and arrear)	...		41,313		41,089	204		...	4,81,269		4,51,106		2,393(*c*)	28,270		...
Percentage	...	...	...		99·46	·49		...	...		93·03		·50	5·87		...

(*a*) Arrear.

(*b*)

	Rs.
Current	... 379
Arrear	... 1,948
Total	... 2,327

(*c*)

	Rs.
Current	... 379
Arrear	... 2,014
Total	... 2,393

STATEMENT No. VI.

Statement showing the Number, Area and Revenue of Estates assessed at full rates in the Brahmaputra Valley during the years 1896-97 *and* 1897-98.

PART A.—ANNUAL.

Subdivision.	1896-97.				1897-98.				
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Increase or decrease in revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Eastern Duars	16,211	67,655	4·17	93,143	17,202	67,913	3·94	93,960	+ 817
Barpeta	33,673	74,169	2·20	1,48,863	32,055	68,433	2·13	1,35,288	— 13,575
Gauhati	80,701	169,495	2·10	3,87,707	72,144	132,380	1·83	2,99,150	— 88,557
Total Kamrup	114,374	243,664	2·13	5,36,570	104,199	200,813	1·93	4,34,438	—1,02,132
Mangaldai	38,947	66,251	1·70	1,68,881	42,801	69,075	1·61	1,77,326	+ 8,445
Tezpur	29,408	46,743	1·58	1,13,469	30,192	48,736	1·61	1,17,350	+ 3,881
Total Darrang	68,355	112,994	1·65	2,82,350	72,993	117,811	1·61	2,94,676	+ 12,326
Nowgong	93,678	150,545	1·60	3,48,465	83,572	128,516	1·53	2,93,993	— 54,472
Golaghat	25,309	34,381	1·35	82,039	24,735	29,222	1·18	68,392	— 13,647
Jorhat	29,717	38,260	1·28	92,539	31,024	41,599	1·34	99,488	— 6,949
Sibsagar	32,743	53,731	1·64	1,35,235	33,722	55,560	1·65	1,39,534	+ 4,299
Total Sibsagar	87,769	126,372	1·43	3,09,813	89,481	126,381	1·41	3,07,414	— 2,399
North Lakhimpur	17,636	24,381	1·38	55,488	17,223	25,299	1·46	58,148	+ 2,660
Dibrugarh	24,294	46,913	1·93	1,10,595	26,037	51,708	1·98	1,31,116	+ 10,521
Total Lakhimpur	41,930	71,294	1·70	1,66,083	43,260	77,007	1·78	1,79,264	+ 13,181
Grand total	422,317	772,524	1·82	17,36,424	410,707	718,441	1·75	16,03,745	—1,32,679

PART B.—PERIODIC.

Subdivision.	1896-97.				1897-98.				
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Increase or decrease in revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Eastern Duars	1	192	192	319	1	192	192	319	...
Barpeta	12,154	33,634	2·76	94,390	15,675	38,833	2·48	1,08,390	+ 14,000
Gauhati	45,287	200,009	4·41	5,58,224	61,383	238,238	3·88	6,52,617	+ 94,393
Total Kamrup	57,441	233,643	4·06	6,52,614	77,058	277,071	3·59	7,61,007	+1,08,393
Mangaldai	28,062	78,756	2·80	2,19,294	27,586	76,812	2·78	2,13,509	— 5,785
Tezpur	14,964	49,340	3·29	1,34,073	15,589	51,159	3·28	1,38,095	+ 4,022
Total Darrang	43,026	128,096	2·97	3,53,367	43,175	1,27,971	2·96	3,51,604	— 1,763
Nowgong	37,917	81,655	2·15	2,39,163	42,032	84,021	1·99	2,45,456	+ 6,293
Golaghat	20,857	88,734	4·25	2,48,957	25,846	97,693	3·77	2,72,622	+ 23,665
Jorhat	33,831	133,328	3·94	3,73,164	34,136	134,320	3·93	3,75,714	+ 2,550
Sibsagar	26,340	99,830	3·79	2,69,446	26,316	101,846	3·87	2,71,638	+ 2,192
Total Sibsagar	81,028	321,892	3·97	8,91,567	86,328	333,859	3·86	9,19,974	+ 28,407
North Lakhimpur	7,327	20,067	2·73	53,905	6,995	19,247	2·75	53,644	— 2,261
Dibrugarh	14,079	68,395	4·85	1,80,451	13,845	68,819	4·97	1,81,110	+ 659
Total Lakhimpur	21,406	88,462	4·13	2,36,356	20,840	88,066	4·22	2,34,754	— 1,602
Grand total	240,810	853,940	3·54	23,73,386	269,434	911,180	3·38	25,13,114	+1,39,728

STATEMENT No. VII.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of Estates assessed at half rates in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the years 1896-97 *and* 1897-98.

District and subdivision.	Settled for one year.						Settled for ten years.						Up to what year settled.	Settled for twenty years.						Total.								Increase or decrease in area.	Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.		Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.			Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.		Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Assessed area, in acres.		Revenue.			
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.		1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					Rs.	Rs.					Rs.	Rs.						Rs.	Rs.							Rs.	Rs.		
Barpeta	...	...	...	...	...	...	204	204	13,384	13,384	12,088	12,088	1902-03	...	...	...	...	...	...	204	204	13,384	13,384	13,384	13,384	12,088	12,088	...	...
Gauhati	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,772	1,772	137,977	137,977	1,39,413	1,39,413		...	...	...	...	...	...	1,772	1,772	137,977	137,977	137,977	137,977	1,39,413	1,39,413	...	...
Total Kamrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,976	1,976	151,361	151,361	1,51,501	1,51,501	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,976	1,976	151,361	151,361	151,361	151,361	1,51,501	1,51,501	...	...
Mangaldai	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	47	11,291	11,291	7,138	7,138	1898-99	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,767	61	61	29,167	29,167	20,063	20,063	15,905	15,905	...	...
Tezpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	30	1,911	1,911	1,775	1,775		...	...	...	...	...	...	30	30	1,911	1,911	1,911	1,911	1,775	1,775	...	...
Total Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	77	13,202	13,202	8,913	8,913	.....	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,767	91	91	31,078	31,078	21,974	21,974	17,680	17,680	...	...
Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	25	5,542	5,542	4,546	4,546	1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	25	5,542	5,542	5,542	5,542	4,546	4,546	...	...
Golaghat	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	65	2,508	2,508	1,069	1,069	1900-01	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	65	2,508	2,508	2,508	2,508	1,069	1,069	...	...
Jorhat	...	...	...	...	...	...	154	156	1,772	1,772	1,653	1,653		...	...	...	...	...	...	154	156	1,772	1,772	1,772	1,772	1,653	1,653	...	...
Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	123	123	711	711	692	692		...	...	...	...	...	...	123	123	711	711	711	711	692	692	...	...
Total Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	342	344	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,414	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	342	344	4,991	4,991	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,114	...	...
North Lakhimpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	273	273	346	346	(a) 1898-99 (b) 1901-02	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	273	273	273	273	346	346	...	...
Dibrugarh	1	1	50	50	60	60	13	13	963	963	1,391	1,391	1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	14	1,013	1,013	1,013	1,013	1,451	1,451	...	...
Total Lakhimpur ...	1	1	50	50	60	60	28	28	1,236	1,236	1,737	1,737	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	29	1,286	1,286	1,286	1,286	1,797	1,797	...	...
Grand total	1	1	50	50	60	60	2,448	2,450	176,332	176,332	1,70,111	1,70,111	...	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,767	2,463	2,465	194,258	194,258	185,154	185,154	1,78,938	1,78,938	...	...

(a) 12 estates.
(b) 3 "
15

STATEMENT No. VIII.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of Estates settled on sp[illegible]ecial terms, in the Brahmaputra Valley districts for the years 1896-97 *and* 1897-9[illegible]8.

—	1896-97.			1897-98.			Increase or decrease in revenue.	Rates at which settled.
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Revenue.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	
Chota Guma	17	764	549	17	764	549	...	*Ba[illegible]sti* at Re. 1-8-0; *[illegible]upit* at Re. 1-2-0; *[illegible]aringati* at 9 annas, and fallow lands at 3 annas per acre.
Latka	23	219	507	23	219	507	...	*Ba[illegible]sti* at Re. 1-2 and *[illegible]upit* at 12 annas per *bigha*.
Goalpara *chur*	1	675	6	1	675	18	+ 12	Sold by public auction.
„ Hill	...	...	...	1	3	4	+ 4	Settled at 8 annas per *bigha*.
Total Goalpara	41	1,658	1,062	42	1,661	1,078	+ 16	
Chamua (Barpeta) ...	1	449	1,302	1	449	1,302	...	At ordinary rates.
Jalukbari *khat* (Gauhati) ...	1	274	264	1	274	316	+ 52	
Phatasil *khat* („) ...	1	541	181	1	541	210	+ 29	
North Gauhati	322	285	1,788	339	302	1,859	+ 71	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Total Kamrup	325	1,549	3,535	342	1,566	3,687	+ 152	
6-pie *lakhiraj* estates (Tezpur)	2	677	51	2	677	48	— 3	At 6 pie per *bigha* on cultivation.
Aunihati *khat* (Nowgong) ...	1	1,993	1,341	1	1,993	1,012	— 329	At ordinary rates.
Ten-twenties (Jorhat) ...	5	98	274	3	69	197	— 77	Land revenue above Rs. 10, in some cases above Rs. 20, remitted.
„ (Sibsagar) ...	9	205	521	9	205	521	...	
Total Sibsagar	14	303	795	12	274	718	— 77	
6-pie *lakhiraj* estates (North Lakhimpur)	7	2,088	88	7	2,078	84	— 4	At 6 pie per *bigha* on cultivation.
Khiraj khat (Dibrugarh) ...	1	158	386	1	162	394	+ 8	At ordinary rates.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with the Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited ...	1	84	508	1	84	508	...	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with *Kyahs*	11	1	22	9	1	18	— 4	Ditto ditto.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with the Makum Tea Company ...	1	332	503	1	322	503	...	At 8 annas per *bigha*.
Settlement on either side of the Makum Branch of the Dibru-Sadiya Railway... ...	2	5,710	...	2	5,710	8,637	+ 8,637	Rent-free for 3 years; at 8 annas per *bigha* for 7 years.
Total Dibrugarh	16	6,285	1,419	14	6,289	10,060	+ 8,641	
Total Lakhimpur	23	8,373	1,507	21	8,367	10,144	+ 8,637	
Grand total	406	14,553	8,391	420	14,538	16,687	+ 8,396	

STATEMENT No. IX.

Statement showing the Number, Area and Revenue of khiraj and nisf-khiraj Estates in the several towns of the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of the two years 1896-97 *and* 1897-98.

Town.	1896-97.															1897-98.														Increase or decrease in revenue.	Rates of assessment.
	Khiraj.									*Nisf-khiraj.*			Total.			*Khiraj.*									*Nisf-khiraj.*			Total.			
	Annual.			Periodic.			Total.									Annual.			Periodic.			Total.									
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.	
Dhubri town	256	95	686	2	14	173	258	109	859	...	...	...	258	109	859	260	95	688	2	14	173	262	109	861	...	...	...	262	109	861	+ 2	Rs. 2 for *batti* and Rs. 5 for *bazar* land per *bigha*.
Barpeta „	324	108	694	...	...	...	324	108	594	3	364	8,6	327	472	1,5.0	323	130	735	...	...	...	323	130	735	3	364	8,6	326	494	1,632	+ 41	Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Gauhati „	25	23	515	631	367	5,179	656	390	5,694	3	3	12	659	393	5,706	23	22	486	630	366	5,172	653	388	5,658	3	3	12	656	391	5,670	— 36	From Rs. 2 to Rs. 150 per *bigha*.
Total Kamrup ...	349	131	1,209	631	367	5,179	980	498	6,388	6	367	908	986	865	7,296	346	152	1,221	630	366	5,172	976	518	6,393	6	367	908	982	885	7,301	+ 5	
Mangaldai town ...	68	30	185	...	...	...	68	30	185	...	20	14	68	50	199	68	32	199	...	...	...	68	32	199	...	20	14	68	52	213	+ 14	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Tezpur town	379	267	1,663	2	11	23	381	278	1,686	...	...	...	381	278	1,686	396	265	1,642	2	11	23	398	276	1,665	...	...	...	398	276	1,665	— 21	
Total Darrang ...	447	297	1,848	2	11	23	449	308	1,871	...	20	14	449	328	1,885	464	297	1,841	2	11	23	466	308	1,864	...	20	14	466	328	1,878	— 7	
Nowgong town	594	513	3,134	75	64	238	669	577	3,372	...	...	...	669	577	3,372	652	521	3,202	74	66	246	726	587	2,448	...	...	...	726	587	3,448	+ 76	Annual at Rs. 2 per *bigha* and periodic at first-class ordinary *khiraj* rate.
Golaghat town	...	...	...	348	358	2,843	348	358	2,843	...	...	...	348	358	2,843	...	...	...	352	356	2,821	352	356	2,821	...	...	...	352	356	2,821	— 22	
Jorhat „	50	10	133	215	225	1,616	265	235	1,749	3	4	9	268	239	1,758	50	10	134	218	225	1,618	268	235	1,752	3	4	9	271	239	1,761	+ 3	*Khiraj* at from Rs. 1-4 at Rs. 50, and *nisf-khiraj* to from annas 8 to Re. 1 per *bigha*.
Sibsagar „	86	50	3 0	1,002	1,198	6,962	1,088	1,248	7,352	4	21	32	1,092	1,269	7,384	37	41	310	994	1,204	7,015	1,031	1,245	7,325	4	21	32	1,035	1,266	7,157	— 27	
Total Sibsagar ...	136	60	523	1,565	1,781	11,421	1,701	1,841	11,944	7	25	41	1,708	1,866	11,985	87	51	444	1,564	1,785	11,454	1,651	1,836	11,898	7	25	41	1,658	1,861	11,930	— 46	
North Lakhimpur town ...	277	544	2,008	...	...	...	277	544	2,008	1	32	57	278	576	2,065	266	538	2,001	...	...	...	266	538	2,001	1	32	57	267	570	2,058	— 7	From annas 12 to Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Dibrugarh town ...	17	8	153	481	512	8,738	498	520	9,091	...	...	...	498	520	9,091	12	7	106	485	491	8,744	497	498	8,850	...	...	...	497	498	8,850	—241	Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 per *bigha*.
Total Lakhimpur ...	294	552	2,161	481	512	8,938	775	1,064	11,099	1	32	57	776	1,096	11,156	278	545	2,107	485	491	8,744	763	1,036	10,851	1	32	57	764	1,068	10,908	—248	
Grand total ...	2,076	1,648	9,561	2,756	2,749	25,972	4,832	4,397	35,533	14	444	1,020	4,846	4,841	36,553	2,087	1,661	9,503	2,757	2,733	25,812	4,844	4,394	35,315	14	444	1,020	4,858	4,838	36,335	—218	

STATEMENT No. X.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of different classes of revenue-paying Estates in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1897-98.

District.	Permanently settled.			*Khiraj*, annual.			*Khiraj*, periodic.*		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goalpara	19	375,462	11,411	17,462	68,008	94,648	3	206	492
Kamrup	...	...	...	104,545	200,965	4,35,659	77,688	277,437	7,66,179
Darrang	...	...	...	73,457	118,108	2,96,517	43,177	127,982	3,51,627
Nowgong	...	...	...	84,224	129,037	2,97,195	42,102	84,087	2,45,702
Sibsagar	...	...	...	89,563	126,432	3,07,858	87,894	335,644	9,31,428
Lakhimpur	...	...	...	43,538	77,552	1,81,371	21,325	88,557	2,43,498
Total for 1897-98	19	375,462	11,411	412,794	720,102	16,13,248	272,191	913,913	25,38,926
1894-95	19	347,667	11,411	428,855	834,142	18,57,057	219,196	788,745	21,07,912
1895-96	19	375,821	11,411	406,992	755,463	17,03,944	247,318	863,249	24,14,650
1896-97	19	375,821	11,411	424,393	774,172	17,12,985	243,594	857,453	23,99,907

District.	Special tenures.			*Nisf-khiraj*.*			Waste land grants.			Total revenue-paying estates.		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goalpara	42	1,661	1,078	...	...	...	2	1,928	180	17,528	447,265	1,07,809
Kamrup	342	1,565	3,687	1,982	151,728	1,52,140	26	6,345	2,056	184,583	638,041	13,59,999
Darrang	2	677	48	91	31,098	17,694	205	61,178	23,558	116,932	330,043	6,09,444
Nowgong	1	1,093	1,012	25	5,542	4,546	84	31,551	21,603	126,440	252,210	5,70,058
Sibsagar	12	274	718	251	5,016	3,435	244	72,040	37,787	178,067	539,406	12,81,226
Lakhimpur	21	8,367	10,144	30	1,318	1,854	135	52,468	22,962	65,049	228,262	4,59,529
Total for 1897-98	420	14,538	16,687	2,479	194,702	1,79,938	696	2,25,510	1,08,146	688,599	2,444,227	44,68,356
1894-95	3,456	16,396	34,941	2,480	195,458	1,79,705	586	185,723	86,666	654,586	2,367,531	43,67,692
1895-96	865	13,977	16,272	2,479	195,022	1,79,734	597	196,062	87,816	6,58,263	2,399,594	44,13,927
1896-97	389	13,789	7,742	2,477	194,702	1,79,958	615	201,533	90,189	671,485	2,417,470	44,35,192

* Including town lands.

The area of roads, rivers, etc., situated within the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district appears in column 3 as well as column 2, and not in column 7. Similar areas in the temporarily-settled tracts appear in column 2 and column 7.

STATEMENT No. XI.

Statement showing the relinquishments in the Brahmaputra Valley during the years 1896-97 *and* 1897-98.

Subdivision.	Total number of estates.		Total area, in acres.		Total number of estates in which relinquishments occurred.		Total area resigned, in acres.		Proportion of relinquishments to the total			
									Number of estates.		Area, in acres.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	16,212	17,203	67,847	68,105	5,863	6,602	16,308	18,684	36·16	32·56	24·03	27·43
Barpeta	45,827	47,730	107,803	107,266	13,130	20,089	28,334	44,756	28·65	42·29	26·28	41·72
Gauhati	125,988	133,527	369,504	370,618	16,459	35,965	32,289	46,976	13·06	26·93	8·73	12·46
Total Kamrup	171,815	181,257	477,307	477,884	29,589	56,054	60,623	91,732	17·22	30·93	12·70	19·18
Mangaldai	67,009	70,387	145,007	145,887	7,369	8,403	10,198	12,358	10·99	12·06	7·03	8·47
Tezpur	44,372	45,781	96,083	99,895	4,828	4,462	6,532	6,418	10·88	9·74	6·79	6·42
Total Darrang	111,381	116,168	241,090	245,782	12,197	12,955	16,730	18,776	10·95	11·15	6·93	7·64
Nowgong	131,595	125,604	232,200	212,537	28,401	18,475	53,160	33,829	21·58	14·70	22·89	15·87
Golaghat	46,166	50,581	123,115	126,915	4,110	4,063	6,946	7,409	8·90	9·81	5·64	5·83
Jorhat	63,548	65,160	171,588	175,919	3,638	4,043	6,407	7,485	5·72	6·20	3·73	4·25
Sibsagar	59,083	60,068	153,561	157,406	2,047	1,877	3,054	3,025	3·46	3·12	1·98	1·92
Total Sibsagar	168,797	175,809	448,264	460,240	9,795	10,883	16,407	17,919	5·80	6·19	3·66	3·89
North Lakhimpur	24,963	24,216	44,448	44,546	3,450	3,155	5,468	6,274	13·82	13·02	12·30	14·08
Dibrugarh	38,373	39,882	115,308	120,527	2,049	1,926	3,672	3,497	5·33	4·82	3·18	2·90
Total Lakhimpur	63,336	64,100	159,756	165,073	5,499	5,081	9,140	9,771	8·68	7·92	5·72	5·85
Grand total	663,136	680,141	1,626,464	1,629,621	91,344	110,050	172,368	190,711	13·78	16·18	10 59	11·70

STATEMENT No. XII.

Statement showing the proportion of the settled area of each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley to the total area, and the unsettled area in each subdivision during the year 1897-98.

Subdivision and district.	Total area of subdivision and district, in acres.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentage of area settled to the total area of the subdivision and district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue-free, including fee-simple.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dhubri	1,665,448	729,771	...	729,771	459,661	476,016	43·81
Goalpara	864,817	859,453	...	859,453	...	5,364	99·37
Total Goalpara	2,530,265*	1,589,224	...	1,589,224	459,661	481,380	62·80
Barpeta	803,200	142,315	1,130	143,445	...	659,755	17·85
Gauhati	1,539 398	493,756	48,963	542,719	94,704	901,975	35·25
Total Kamrup	2,342,598*	636,071	50,093	686,164	94,704	1,561,730	29·29
Mangaldai	879,173	193,015	27,062	220,077	17,372	641,724	25·03
Tezpur	1,306,949	142,122	29,965	172,087	177,478	957,384	13·16
Total Darrang	2,186,122*	335,137	57,027	392,164	194,850	1,599,108	17·93
Nowgong	2,086,504†	251,421	23,663	275,084	91,790	1,719,630	13·18
Golaghat	560,191	149,366	27,113	176,479	20,290	363,422	31·50
Jorhat...	612,724	186,377	95,291	281,668	11,801	319,255	45·96
Sibsagar	633,273	203,673	41,026	244,699	49,398	339,176	38·64
Total Sibsagar	1,806,188	539,416	163,430	702,846	81,489	1,021,853	38·91
North Lakhimpur ...	742,538	56,392	10,611	67,003	18,906	656,649	9·02
Dibrugarh	1,640,520	171,870	107,165	279,035	255,470	1,106,015	17·00
Total Lakhimpur ...	2,383,078	228,262	117,776	346,038	274,376	1,762,664	14·52
Grand total	13,334,755	3,579,531	411,989	3,991,520	1,196,870	8,146,365	29·93

* Includes the area of the Brahmaputra river. † It is not known whether the area of the Brahmaputra is included or not.

The area of roads, rivers, etc., situated within the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district appears in column 3 as well as column 2, and not in column 7. Similar area in the temporarily-settled tracts appears in column 2 and column 7.

STATEMENT No. XIII.

Suits under the Rent Laws in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1897-98.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XIV.

Applications to Collectors for aid in distraint and to Civil Court amins or other officers for sale of distrained property in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1897-98.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XV.

Cases in which penalties were imposed for non-payment of rent in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1897-98.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XVI.

Proceedings under Chapter V of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886, in the district of Sylhet, during the year 1897-98.

Class of estate.	Number of estates in arrears on latest day of payment.	Revenue demand.		Amount of arrears.		Number of estates in which arrears were paid up before sale.	Number of estates exempted from sale.	Total sales.						
		Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.			Number.	Government demand.		Due for which sold.			Purchase-money.
									Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Talabana.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Permanently settled	13,329	3,07,117	1,77,751	1,14,828	72,287	9,986	3,013	230	1,036	485	512	259	396	80,880
Temporarily settled { Jaintia	13,839	1,64,955	9,715	1,21,232	7,338	7,718	6,069	52	447	27	472	27	146	3,122
Temporarily settled { Others	6,060	1,55,514	9,976	98,810	6,001	...	...	1	5	...	5	...	1	32
Revenue-free	172	...	2,260	...	1,660	104	59	40*	...	10	...	10	24	334
Total	33,300	6,27,586	1,99,702	3,34,870	87,220	17,808	9,141	293	1,488	522	989	296	567	84,358

Class of estate.	Purchased for Government.				Balance in favour of defaulters.	Balance not covered by sale.	Deposits forfeited, section 78.		Number regained by proprietors.	Number of appeals.	Sales annulled, sections 79 and 81.				Recommended for annulment.				
	Number.	Government demand.		Purchase-money.			Number.	Amount forfeited.			Government demand.		Amount due when sold.		Number.	Government demand.		Amount due when sold.	
		Land revenue.	Local rate.								Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.		Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Permanently settled	8	7	3	9	79,729	16	31	1,079	15	54	32	90	17	66	6	7	5	3	2
Temporarily settled { Jaintia	...	...	...	...	2,467	...	...	...	...	32	163	10	67	4	...	...	...	...	...
Temporarily settled { Others	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Revenue-free	...	...	...	...	301	1	2	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	8	7	3	9	82,523	17	33	1,093	13	86†	195	100	84	70	6	7	5	3	2

* One re-sold.

† Excludes 5 appeals under section 81 of the Regulation.

STATEMENT No. XVII.

Business performed in the Revenue Department of the Deputy Commissioners' Offices in the Plains Districts of Assam during the year 1897-98.

Description of business.	Cachar.				Sylhet.				Goalpara.				Kamrup.				Darrang.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1. Settlement of land revenue and local rates of mauzas and tahsils.	505	993	692	806	..	..	..	..	..	11	11	..	72	216	288	..	..	105	105	..
2. Settlement of land revenue of waste lands, section I of Settlement Rules.	11	1	8	4	5	1	2	4	1	3	1	3	6	3	3	6	46	34	37	43
3. Other settlements where the land revenue is paid direct.	..	..	..	..	650	1,338	1,691	297	..	1	1	..	..	50	50	..	..	33	33	..
4. Assessment of local rates not included in heading 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	15	..
5. Resumption	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Mutation cases under Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	..	..	..	6,785	4,502	9,317	2,370	4	1	1	4	1,869	3,064	3,686	1,247	320	1,594	1,678	236
7. *Bakijai* cases under Chapter V of Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	..	..	..	168	1,834	1,765	237	117	1,180	1,207	90	1,903	5,066	5,480	1,489	590	4,397	4,138	849
8. Annulments of settlements under section 50 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	..	..	..	..	22	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	33	..	..	8	8	..
9. Sales for arrear of revenue under sections 70 and 91 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	5	3	2	27	293	263	57	..	..	..	..	21	53	74	..	14	117	113	18
10. Annulments of sales	..	..	..	..	29	91	63	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Partition cases under Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	2	2	..	13	28	16	25	..	..	..	..	74	67	79	62	4	6	9	1
12. Cases of acquisition of land for public purposes	10	6	6	10	785	184	421	548	2	..	2	..	..	6	4	2	..	..	..	..
13. Claims to money in deposit and precept cases ..	..	..	..	..	39	273	246	66	..	..	..	..	1	25	26	..	..	4	4	..
14. Excise cases	..	11	11	..	..	51	51	..	..	25	25	..	..	17	17	..	1	6	7	..
15. Stamp cases	..	..	..	..	17	305	303	19	1	22	23	..	1	7	8	..	2	5	7	..
16. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits.	1	..	..	1	11	71	72	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

STATEMENT No. XVII—*contd.*

Description of business.	Cachar.				Sylhet.				Goalpara.				Kamrup.				Darrang.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17. Government decrees executed	..	..	..	..	8	72	65	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Appeals	..	14	11	3	4	38	39	3	..	..	..	..	7	13	18	2	..	1	1	..
19. Miscellaneous cases	38	549	563	24	931	5,073	3,968	2,036	6	9	15	..	47	151	140	58	3	84	74	13
20. Petitions	..	525	525	..	..	3,650	3,650	..	6	593	594	5	275	6,259	4,249	2,285	403	2,545	2,492	456
21. Papers other than petitions	..	1,437	1,437	..	..	3,939	3,939	..	24	1,108	1,128	4	42	11,075	11,023	94	59	932	944	47
22. Applications for relinquishment of land ..	..	..	..	..	6	73	78	1	..	6,602	6,602	..	..	55,967	55,967	..	..	12,575	12,575	..
23. Applications for waste land under section II of the Settlement Rules.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	138	137	1	233	1,083	1,029	287	64	1,827	1,601	290
24. Applications for separate account	..	..	..	..	282	708	779	211	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Miscellaneous applications	..	690	690	..	86	4,836	4,733	189	..	116	114	2	7	609	616	..	20	884	860	44
26. Miscellaneous cases connected with Government estates.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Processes	..	715	715	..	10	41,044	41,048	6	109	2,448	2,213	344	291	21,655	21,338	608	27	11,238	11,192	73
28. Notices under Act VIII (B. C.) of 1869 ..	..	..	..	..	..	107	107	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29. Periodical returns	..	173	173	..	..	64	64	..	..	693	693	..	..	2,804	2,804	..	..	430	430	..
30. Bills prepared	..	559	559	..	..	1,150	1,150	..	..	738	738	..	..	565	565	..	..	216	216	..
31. Miscellaneous business	..	477	477	..	..	3,332	3,332	..	..	1,549	1,549	..	..	28,932	28,932	..	..	9,410	9,410	..
32. Objections to cadastral survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	35	49	10
33. Applications for the registration of taluqdari tenures.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. Certificates issued under section 61 (2) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	17	9	9	..	11	3	8	7	13	16	4
35. Applications for agricultural loans	..	..	..	..	..	103	103	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36. Certificates issued under Public Demand Recovery Act.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	565	6,157	5,872	850	9,836	73,582	77,287	6,151	271	15,257	15,066	462	4,849	138,431	136,432	6,848	1,584	46,514	46,014	2,084

STATEMENT No. XVII—*continued.*

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibsagar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
1. Settlement of land revenue and local rates of mauzas and tahsils.	...	33	33	...	...	56	56	...	...	67	67	...	577	1,481	1,252	806
2. Settlement of land revenue of waste lands, section I of Settlement Rules.	6	2	3	5	56	36	50	42	42	42	38	46	173	122	142	153
3. Other settlements where the land revenue is paid direct ...	...	34	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	650	1,436	1,809	297
4. Assessment of local rates not included in heading 1 ...	...	82	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	268	268	...	...	365	365	...
5. Resumption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Mutation cases under Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation.	356	801	950	207	801	3,008	3,779	930	110	855	851	114	10,245	15,125	20,262	5,108
7. *Bakijai* cases under Chapter V of Land and Revenue Regulation.	2,833	5,999	5,347	3,485	1,038	2,942	2,208	1,772	101	815	619	297	6,750	22,233	20,764	8,219
8. Annulments of settlements under sections 90 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	...	...	...	...	...	70	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	133	133	...
9. Sales for arrear of revenue under sections 70 and 91 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	120	310	187	243	...	42	38	4	...	29	29	...	182	849	707	324
10. Annulments of sales	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	29	92	64	57
11. Partition cases under Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation.	1	1	...	2	76	107	54	129	7	43	45	5	175	254	205	224
12. Cases of acquisition of land for public purposes ...	18	6	...	24	13	5	13	5	...	2	...	2	828	209	446	591
13. Claims to money in deposit and precept cases	...	...	...	...	...	16	16	...	...	3	3	...	40	321	295	66
14. Excise cases	...	...	...	...	5	40	45	...	...	...	...	...	6	150	156	...
15. Stamp cases	...	4	3	1	6	51	55	2	1	76	77	...	28	470	476	22
16. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	71	72	11
17. Government decrees executed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	72	65	15

STATEMENT No. XVII—*concluded.*

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibsagar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
18. Appeals	...	6	2	4	4	45	44	5	1	3	4	...	16	120	119	17
19 Miscellaneous cases	189	250	390	49	4	87	85	6	497	459	66	...	1,246	6,700	5,694	2,252
20. Petitions	21	2,294	2,162	153	649	3,502	3,653	498	149	1,865	1,837	177	1,503	21,933	19,162	4,274
21. Papers other than petitions	85	3,335	3,043	377	54	1,755	1,609	200	100	2,859	2,741	218	364	26,440	25,864	940
22. Applications for relinquishment of land	...	17,286	17,286	...	...	10,428	10,428	...	...	5,307	5,307	...	6	108,238	108,243	1
23. Applications for waste land under section 11 of the Settlement Rules.	415	2,658	2,415	658	578	1,728	1,952	354	311	1,376	1,421	266	1,601	8,810	8,555	1,856
24. Applications for separate accounts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	282	708	779	211
25. Miscellaneous applications	...	500	500	...	17	2,197	2,201	13	6	578	576	8	136	10,410	10,290	256
26. Miscellaneous cases connected with Government estates ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Processes	193	9,981	9,927	247	...	22,342	22,342	...	77	2,310	2,134	253	767	111,733	110,909	1,531
28. Notices under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	107	...
29. Periodical returns	...	90	90	...	...	820	820	...	...	689	689	...	...	5,763	5,763	...
30. Bills prepared	...	187	187	...	...	510	510	...	...	1,010	1,010	...	...	4,935	4,935	...
31. Miscellaneous business	...	5,537	5,537	...	...	19,100	19,096	4	20	8,823	8,796	47	20	77,160	77,129	51
32. Objections to cadastral survey	...	...	...	...	71	...	71	...	...	...	...	...	95	35	120	10
33. Applications for the registration of taluqdari tenures ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Certificates issued under section 91 (2) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.	30	48	27	51	6	8	13	1	...	22	18	4	44	119	86	77
5. Applications for agricultural loans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103	103	...
36 Certificates issued under Public Demand Recovery Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Total	4,267	49,444	48,205	5,506	3,378	69,796	69,209	3,965	953	27,539	26,389	1,503	25,723	426,720	425,074	27,369

STATEMENT No. XVIII.

Lands taken up for public purposes and compensation paid for them during the year 1897-98.

Serial No.	District.	Purposes for which land was taken up.	Area of land taken.	Cash compensation paid, including other charges.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Cachar	Assam-Bengal Railway ...	A. 14 r. 2 p. 35 y. 0	Rs. 1,903 a. 12 p. 8*	*Rupees 2,076-9 were actually awarded for the area acquired during the year, out of which Rs. 1,908-12-8 have been paid and Rs. 172-12-4 are still due to claimants. Besides this amount a further sum of Rs. 122-15 was paid during the year on account of outstanding balance of the previous year.
2		For cutting a drain in mauza Nij Katigora.	0 1 26 0	38 5 6	
3		Cholera-shed in Lakhipur ...	0 2 16 0	43 2 0	
4		Sildhubi-Rukni road ...	48 0 0 0	3,268 15 5†	† A further sum of Rs. 313-11-4 is held in deposit, which has not been paid, the claimants having not appeared yet.
5		For a site for the traffic station at Jirighat.	0 1 4 0	15 10 8	
6		Military rifle range ...	11 0 0 0	743 13 0‡	‡ A further sum of Rs. 41-14-4 is still due to claimants, which has not been paid, as the claimants have not appeared yet.
7	Sylhet	For Assam-Bengal Railway ...	37 0 0 0	63,394 0 0	
8		Road from Bharaura to Srimangal road.	32 1 7 0	305 0 0	
9		Feeder road to Jogodishpur Railway Station.	5 0 30 0	415 0 0	
10		Feeder road to Montala Railway Station.	8 1 2 0	798 0 0	
11		Burning ghât and a road in village Rajnagar, pargana Taraf.	1 1 2 0	132 0 0	
12		A cross-road and two tanks just across to the river face of road in Rajnagar, pargana Taraf.	3 0 39 0	440 0 0	
13		Making thorough passage for the sanitary improvement of Karimganj Bazar.	0 2 3 0	458 0 0	
14		For the site of Karimganj Dispensary.	0 3 3 0	470 0 0	
15		For the site for India General Steam Navigation Company's steamer godown at Karimganj.	1 2 27 0	292 0 0	
16		Rest-house for the native members of Karimganj Local Board.	0 2 3 0	120 0 0	
17		Latrine and a road leading to it in village Nalitikair, pargana Kusiarkul.	0 0 4 0	23 0 0	
18		Site for the Karimganj Subdivisional Officer's residence.	3 1 24 0	672 0 0	
19		Ajmatpur village road ...	0 0 23 0	20 0 0	
20		Site for the Fenchuganj Dispensary compound.	0 0 33 0	53 0 0	
21		Chhotis village road	1 2 0 0	156 0 0	
22		Latrine at Fenchuganj ...	0 1 6 0	21 0 0	
23		Pagla-Govindganj road ...	157 0 9 0	4,520 0 0	
24	Kamrup	For the construction of residences for European officers in the town of Gauhati.	19 1 30 0	20,918 4 6	
25		For an inspection bungalow at Nalbari and for quarters for the Public Works Department subordinates at Palasbari.	4 1 36 0	390 8 3	
26		For the Assam-Bengal Railway brick-field at Jamunamukh.	3 2 27 $6\frac{1}{20}$	.....	No compensation was paid.
27		For the Assam-Bengal Railway's Titaimori bridge at Chaparmukh.	0 1 25 $18\frac{3}{20}$	404 0 0§	§ Compensation was paid for houses and crops, but nothing had to be paid for the land as it was held under annual lease.
28		For Chaparmukh Local Board road	14 0 32 0	701 0 0	
29	Nowgong.	For Local Board feeder road at Bangaldhara.	1 3 6 $12\frac{1}{10}$	.....	No compensation was paid.
30		For the rest-house at Dwarbagari	2 2 11 $6\frac{1}{20}$	51 0 0‖	‖ Compensation will have to be paid, as the amount has been received from the Executive Engineer, Central Assam Division, after the close of the year.
31		For the post office at Nelli ...	0 1 22 $12\frac{1}{10}$	.....	No compensation was paid.
32		For the post office at Roha ...	0 2 17 $18\frac{3}{20}$	.....	Ditto ditto.
33		For Public Works subordinates' quarters at Roha.	0 1 24 0	.....	Ditto ditto.
34	Sibsagar	For the Assam-Bengal Railway in the Jorhat subdivision.	21 0 0 0	504 0 0	¶ Besides this, a sum of Rs. 245 was awarded to the Deb'ng Gossain as compensation for 10·58 acres of *Lakhiraj* land acquired some five years ago by the Department of Public Works for improving the Kamalabari road in the North Lakhimpur subdivision.
35		For the Assam-Bengal Railway in the Sibsagar subdivision.	62 0 0 0	19,384 0 0	
36		For other purposes ...	28 0 0 0		
Total			487 1 8 $12\frac{1}{10}$	120,655 8 0	

ASSAM SECRETARIAT PRINTING OFFICE (REVENUE) No. 370—250—30-12-98.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1898-99.

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N.B.—For explanation of vernacular terms used in Reports, *see* "Glossary of Vernacular Terms ordinarily used in the Province of Assam," published in 1878.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1898-99.

SECTION I.

WEATHER, CROPS, AND PRICES.

Rainfall.

1. Taking the province as a whole, the rainfall of 1898-99 was below that of previous years. In April the rainfall was scanty in most districts, but in May it was generally above the average. The months of June, July, and August were remarkable for heavy showers, while the winter months of November to January were unusually dry. In February the rainfall was normal, and was abundant in most districts in March 1899. Statement No. I in the Appendix gives the rainfall, in inches, registered at the headquarters of each district and subdivision and at Cherrapunji during 1898-99, and compares it with that of the three years immediately preceding and with the average rainfall of three periods of five years each. In 12 out of the 17 plains stations and in the stations of Haflong and Shillong, the rainfall of the year was less than the average of the five years ending 1898-99.

The following remarks regarding the amount and distribution of rainfall in the Assam Valley districts are extracted from the Commissioner's Divisional Report:

The rainfall of the division generally was below that of the previous year, but above that of the ten years ending 1897-98 and of the five years ending 1898-99. It was fairly well distributed in the districts of Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, and Darrang. In the North Lakhimpur subdivision, the heaviest falls were in June to August, and the outturn of both *ahu* and *sali* crops was good. In Sibsagar the rainfall was favourable for most crops, except tea. There was little or no rain during the winter months, but an abundant fall in February and March benefited the tea cultivation. Temporary scarcity of water was felt in some parts of the Nowgong district during the dry months. The rainfall in August and September was deficient in this district, and tea cultivation suffered in consequence and yielded a poor outturn. The unusually heavy fall in October improved the prospects of tea cultivation, but was injurious to the winter crops, especially to mustard. In Kamrup the rainfall in Barpeta was lower than in any year except 1896-97, but in Gauhati it was the highest of all the periods under comparison. The rainfall in this district was favourable to paddy, but somewhat prejudicial to pulses and mustard, the cultivation of which was retarded by the late subsidence of the floods, and which ultimately failed to yield a good outturn. In Goalpara the heaviest fall was in June.

The following is a summary of the reports of the Deputy Commissioners of other districts on this subject:

Cachar.—Deficient rainfall was a remarkable feature of the year. Dearth of good drinking water was felt at one time, and an exceptionally small amount of rain fell between October and March. The rainfall in June, July, and August was, however, sufficient, well distributed and very favourable to the rice crop.

Sylhet.—The month of May, usually a month of heavy rains in Sylhet, was conspicuous for scanty rainfall, otherwise the rainfall was favourable.

Naga Hills.—The rainfall of the year compared favourably with that of the previous year. It was, however, badly distributed in the Kohima sadr subdivision.

Khasi and Jaintia Hills.—The year was remarkable for abnormally deficient rainfall in the district. Scanty rain was noticeable in April and May with a comparatively heavy fall in October.

Garo Hills.—The rainfall of the year was above the average of the four preceding years. The rains set in in April and increased steadily during May and June. Heavy showers also fell in August and September.

The list below groups the different subdivisions according to the average rainfall for the five years ending 1898-99 :

(1) Below 50 inches—

Nil.

(2) 50 inches and under 75 inches—

Haflong.	Tezpur.
Gauhati	Nowgong.
Mangaldai.	Kohima.
Shillong.	

(3) 75 inches and under 100 inches—

South Sylhet.	Barpeta.
Habiganj.	Golaghat.
Dhubri.	Jorhat.
Goalpara.	Mokokchang.

(4) 100 inches and under 150 inches—

Silchar.	Sibsagar.
Hailakandi.	North Lakhimpur.
Karimganj.	Dibrugarh.
North Sylhet.	Jowai.
Tura.	

(5) 150 inches and under 200 inches—

Sunamganj.

(6) 200 inches and over—

Cherrapunji.

A map illustrating by colours the rainfall of the year throughout the province is annexed.

Storms and floods.

2. In the plains portion of the Garo Hills, floods greatly damaged the crops. In March in Cachar a very severe hurricane, apparently cyclonic, and accompanied by hail, caused serious damage to houses in the station and the neighbouring villages. There was no flood during the year. In the Khasi Hills, there was no storm of unusual severity, but the unusual phenomenon of a fall of snow occurred on the 9th January 1899.

In the Brahmaputra Valley the only districts in which there were storms worthy of notice were Darrang, Nowgong, and Sibsagar. In April 1898 a storm passed over the Nowgong sadr tahsil and caused considerable damage to houses and trees. In the same month a violent storm occurred in the Sibsagar district blowing down the Seleng rest-house and causing damage to other buildings on the neighbouring tea gardens. A hail storm passed over the sadr subdivision of the Darrang district, but no damage was done to standing crops. There were also heavy floods in all the districts of the valley, except Goalpara and Kamrup. Two high floods passed over the Nowgong district, one in July and the other in October, and did considerable damage to both the early and late rice crops and the pulses. The first flood affected the Gerua-Bokoni mauza, and the second a much larger area along the banks of the Kopili river. Some damage was caused to crops in the Sibsagar district by the overflow of the Dikhu, Jhanji, and Brahmaputra. In the Darrang district some damage was caused by floods to the rice and mustard crops, but in a comparatively small area. In Lakhimpur the heavy rainfall of August submerged the low-lying tracts and caused some damage to the

2nd Edition.

Explanations.

Subdivisions in which the rainfall for the year ending 1898-99 has—

(a) 50 inches and under 75 inches ...

(b) 75 inches and under 100 inches ...

(c) 100 inches and under 150 inches ...

(d) 150 inches and under 200 inches ...

(e) 200 inches and over ...

Note.—Cherrapunji, although not a subdivision, is shown separately.

Subdivision.	Rainfall during 1898-99.
Silchar ...	81·07
Hailakandi ...	66·99
Haflong ...	50·81
Karimganj ...	118·13
South Sylhet ...	82·04
North Sylhet ...	112·39
Habiganj ...	85·56
Sunamganj ...	104·30
Dhubri ...	91·72
Goalpara ...	90·28
Barpeta ...	85·21
Gauhati ...	77·23
Mangaldai ...	71·27
Tezpur ...	77·12
Nowgong ...	69·76
Golaghat ...	80·8
Jorhat ...	77·24
Sibsagar ...	69·6
North Lakhimpur	73·15
Dibrugarh ...	74·03
Mokokchung ...	105·45
Kohima ...	71·8
Jowai ...	127·3
Shillong ...	69·3
Cherrapunji ...	324·3
Tura ...	103·8
Aijal ...	85·7

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(a) Haflong, Gauhati, Mangaldai, Nowgong, Shillong, Aijal.

(b) Silchar, Hailakandi, South Sylhet, Habiganj, Dhubri, Goalpara, Barpeta, Tezpur, Golaghat, Jorhat, Sibsagar.

(c) Karimganj, North Sylhet, North Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Mokokchang, Jowai, Tura.

(d) Sunamganj.

(e) Cherrapunji.

A. S. P. O. (Rev.) No. 193—150—17-12-99.

paddy cultivation in several mauzas. The generally accepted explanation of the cause of these floods is the silting up of the river beds by the earthquake of 1897, combined with a sinking of the river banks and consequent overflow.

The highest point reached by the Brahmaputra river at Gauhati in 1898 was 28·10 above zero on the 14th September 1898. In the previous ten years the highest points recorded were as follows :

1888	...	...	...	...	27·80	July 30th and 31st.
1889	...	...	...	...	29·70	August 3rd.
1890	...	...	...	...	28·80	September 5th.
1891	...	...	...	...	25·90	July 11th.
1892	...	...	...	...	26·50	„ 13th.
1893	...	...	...	...	28·80	August 17th to 19th.
1894	...	...	...	...	21·30	September 25th.
1895	...	...	...	...	28·70	July 28th.
1896	...	...	...	...	29·00	September 24th.
1897	...	...	...	...	29·10	„ 9th.

As the maximum flood point was normal and lower than that of the three preceding years, the heavy floods can only be accounted for by special causes, such as the silting up of the beds and the subsidence of the banks of rivers after the earthquake.

The lowest point registered at Gauhati in 1898 was 0·30 below zero on the 17th March 1898. The lowest points registered in the previous ten years were as follows :

1888	...	...	...	...	− 6·30	February 9th.
1889	...	...	...	...	− 4·08	„ 22nd.
1890	...	...	...	...	− 3·90	„ 20th and 21st.
1891	...	...	...	...	− 2·50	„ 27th.
1892	...	...	...	...	− 3·60	March 16th, 17th, and 19th.
1893	...	...	...	...	− 0·98	February 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th.
1894	...	...	...	...	+ 4·80	February 10th, 12th, and 13th.
1895	...	...	...	...	+ 0·03	December 30th and 31st.
1896	...	...	...	...	− 0·90	January 28th to 31st, February 1st, 2nd, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 29th, March 1st to 4th.
1897	...	...	...	...	+ 1·55	February 19th.

Harvests.

3. Rice, the main crop of the Sylhet district, was good in all five subdivisions. Both early and late rice turned out well, the latter being a bumper crop. In Cachar both the early and the late rice yielded a bumper crop owing to the favourable rainfall. In the Naga Hills the outturn of the rice crop was much below, and in the Garo Hills much above, the average. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills the rice crop yielded a poor outturn.

In the Brahmaputra Valley districts, owing to favourable weather, the outturn of both the early and the late rice crop was, on the whole, good. *Matikalai* (*phaseolus radiatus*) yielded an average crop, except in Kamrup and the Mangaldai subdivision of the Darrang district. In Kamrup the late floods and in Mangaldai the heavy rains of October retarded ploughing and sowing. Sugarcane did fairly well in Cachar, Goalpara, Kamrup, Nowgong, and Lakhimpur. The cotton crop gave an average outturn in Cachar and the Jaintia Hills, but the yield, though better than the previous year, was much below the average in the Garo Hills, owing to heavy rains in August and September

On the whole, the outturn of tea was not satisfactory. In Cachar, Sylhet, and Nowgong, the outturn, owing to long and severe droughts and to unequal distribution of rainfall, was poor.

4. *District crop statement.*—Statement No. IIA in the Appendix gives details of the areas under the various crops and the fallow areas in the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, excluding the permanently-settled portion of Goalpara.

The figures below give the total area cropped in those districts during 1898-99, as compared with the figures of the preceding year :

	1898-99. Acres.	1897-98. Acres.
Rice	1,300,365	1,280,035
Mustard	125,544	155,305
Sugarcane	15,090	15,984
Other crops (including *basti*)	484,812	4,61,350
Total crops	1,925,811	1,912,674
Deduct—Double-cropped area	158,665	161,565
Net cropped area	1,767,146	1,751,109

There was an increase in the net area cropped during the year. The area under early rice decreased owing chiefly to the effects of the earthquake, but that under late rice, owing to favourable weather conditions, increased in all districts, except Lakhimpur. The decrease in the area under mustard was due to the late subsidence of the floods.

Cadastral crop statement.—Statement No. IIB in the Appendix shows the areas under the various crops and the fallow areas in the cadastrally-surveyed portions of the province. The following statement compares the areas in the two years, 1897—99 :

	1898-99. Acres.	1897-98. Acres.
Rice	1,473,405	1,426,734
Mustard	107,000	132,437
Sugarcane	16,780	19,000
Other crops (including *basti*)	532,855	5,09,327
Total crops	2,130,040	2,087,504
Deduct—Double-cropped area	190,569	194,150
Net area cropped	1,939,471	1,893,354

The net total area cropped in 1898-99 shows an increase over that of the preceding year. The increase is chiefly under rice owing to favourable weather conditions, while the area under both mustard and sugarcane shows a decrease. The increase under rice occurred chiefly in Jaintia and in the Sylhet *ilam* estates. Fluctuations in the Assam Valley districts have been explained above. On the whole, the past year was the first since 1895-96, which can be said to have been favourable to agricultural operations.

Prices.

5. The average price of common rice at the different district and subdivisional head-quarters stations in the Surma and Brahmaputra Valleys during the past five years is given in the statement below:

Station.	Quantity obtainable for Re. 1.				
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sr. ch.	Sr. ch.	Sr. ch.	Sr. ch.	Sr. ch.
Cachar	8 9	11 6	8 10	6 14	12 4
Karimganj	9 7	12 5	9 6	9 1	13 4
South Sylhet	11 15	15 11	10 2	10 4	13 14
North „	12 12	15 12	10 1	9 9	11 11
Habiganj	13 11	16 12	10 5	10 3	14 7
Sunamganj	12 5	16 2	9 5	8 5	12 6
Dhubri	11 6	14 5½	9 14	9 1	13 0
Goalpara	11 8	12 15	9 15	8 13	13 11
Barpeta	13 6	16 8	10 6	8 11	14 15
Gauhati	12 8	16 0	10 8	9 1	12 9
Mangaldai	13 9	17 4	13 15	11 7	14 4
Tezpur	9 0	13 0	12 8	8 8	10 12
Nowgong	10 15	10 4	9 7	7 8	10 1
Golaghat	10 11	10 0	9 14	9 6	9 11
Jorhat	10 13	11 4	10 4	8 6	9 12
Sibsagar	10 11	11 5	10 3	9 15	11 5
North Lakhimpur	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0
Dibrugarh	10 4	12 6	9 14	8 10	11 2

Prices fell in all the subdivisions in both valleys, except in North Lakhimpur, where they remained stationary. The fall in prices was due to good harvests both in and outside the province.

A statement showing the average prices of *matikalai* (*phaseolus radiatus*), mustard and raw sugar in the district and subdivisional stations in the Brahmaputra Valley during the last two years, is given in Appendix III to the Report.

As compared with the previous year, the price of *matikalai* fell in all the subdivisions, except in Mangaldai. Mustard also fell in price, except in Mangaldai, Golaghat, and North Lakhimpur, where the price remained stationary. This fall is attributed to a decrease in the Calcutta demand. Raw sugar, on the other hand, rose in price everywhere, except in Dhubri, Jorhat, and Dibrugarh, where the price fell, and in Tezpur and North Lakhimpur, where prices remained stationary. The rise in the price of raw sugar (*gur*) is attributed to the decrease in the area cultivated and to the prevalence of light.

SECTION II.

COLLECTIONS OF LAND REVENUE.

Number of permanently-settled estates.

6. The number of permanently-settled estates on the revenue roll at the end of the year was 49,911, against 49,920 on the 31st March 1898. In Goalpara and the Garo Hills no change took place, but in Sylhet the number (49,891) was reduced owing to the purchase by Government of nine estates for arrears of revenue.

Number of temporarily-settled estates.

7. The total number of temporarily-settled revenue-paying estates on the roll at the close of the year was 771,684, against 764,149 at the close of 1897-98. The details of each district are given below :

Division.	District.	Number of estates.		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
		1897-98.	1898-99.			Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Surma Valley ...	Cachar	11,954	12,031	77	...	0·64	...
	Sylhet	55,823	47,586	...	8,237	...	14·76
Brahmaputra Valley...	Goalpara	17,509	19,390	1,881	...	10·75	...
	Kamrup	184,583	175,067	...	9,516	...	5·16
	Darrang	116,932	122,258	5,326	...	4·55	...
	Nowgong	126,440	131,671	5,231	...	4·14	...
	Sibsagar	178,067	184,040	5,973	...	3·35	...
	Lakhimpur	65,049	72,273	7,224	...	11·11	...
Hill districts ...	Naga Hills	371	1	...	370	...	99·73
	Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	1,980*	1,740	...	240	...	12·12
	Garo Hills	5,441	5,627	186	...	3·42	...
	Total	764,149*	771,684	25,898	18,363	...	...
	Net Increase ...	...	...	7,535		0·99	

* Including 289 high land estates in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, which were omitted through mistake in the Report for 1897-98.

In Cachar, the increase of 77 estates resulted from the addition of 81 and the removal of 4 estates. Of the 81 estates added, 7 were waste land leases granted under Section I of the Settlement Rules, the revenue-free term of which expired during the year, and 74 were estates newly settled. Of the 4 estates removed, 3 were relinquished by the settlement-holders, and one fetching no bid at the sale for arrears of revenue reverted to Government.

In Sylhet, the number of temporarily-settled estates decreased by 8,237. The number of annual leases fell off by 444 and periodic leases by 7,796, while 3 estates were added to the revenue roll by settlement under the Special Cultivation Rules. For the decrease in the number of annual leases (due to resignations), the Jaintia parganas are responsible. The abnormal decrease in the number of periodic leases, for which the Jaintia parganas are also responsible, was due to (1) amalgamation of estates at the time of the last cadastral survey; (2) conversion of some of the old mahals to *khas*, and (3) resignations by the settlement-holders during the survey.

In all the districts of the Assam Valley, except Kamrup, the number of estates increased during the year. This increase was due for the most part to ordinary extensions of cultivation, but in Goalpara the splitting up of estates in the Sidli Duar, consequent on the survey of 1897-98, was also partly the cause of the increase, while in Nowgong the detection of concealed cultivation and unassessed lands in the special enquiries held in the district towards the close of the year largely contributed to it. In Kamrup, the large decrease was due chiefly to heavy relinquishments of lands damaged by the earthquake and rendered unfit for cultivation by the floods. The raiyats of the lower portion of the Barpeta subdivision migrated in large numbers to different places outside the Kamrup district after resigning their *basti* and culturable lands.

8. The current land revenue demand of the province rose from Rs. 55,60,903 in 1897-98 to Rs. 57,68,099 in 1898-99, showing an increase of Rs. 2,07,196, or 3·73 per cent. Details of each district are given in the statement below :

Current demand.

District.	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.			Increase.	Decrease
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Cachar	...	...	3,56,116	3,58,877	3,56,116	3,58,877	2,761	...	0·78	...
Sylhet	3,65,889	3,66,041	3,37,757	5,31,029	7,03,646	8,97,070	1,93,424	...	27·49	...
Total Surma Valley ...	3,65,889	3,66,041	6,93,873	8,89,906	10,59,762	12,55,947	1,96,185	...	18·51	...
Goalpara	11,411	11,411	96,398	97,143	1,07,809	1,08,554	745	...	0·69	...
Kamrup	...	...	13,59,990	12,77,431	13,59,990	12,77,431	...	82,559	...	6·07
Darrang	...	...	6,89,444	7,02,940	6,89,444	7,02,940	13,496	...	1·96	...
Nowgong	...	...	5,70,058	5,81,601	5,70,058	5,81,601	11,543	...	2·03	...
Sibsagar	...	...	12,81,246	13,13,316	12,81,246	13,13,316	32,070	...	2·50	...
Lakhimpur	...	...	4,59,829	4,97,561	4,59,829	4,97,561	37,732	...	8·21	...
Total Brahmaputra Valley ...	11,411	11,411	44,56,965	44,69,992	44,68,376	44,81,403	95,586	82,559	...	...
Net Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	+13,027		0·29	
Naga Hills	...	...	1,836	10	1,836	10	...	1,826	...	99·46
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	...	...	8,914	8,597	8,914	8,597	...	317	...	3·56
Garo Hills	12	12	22,003	22,130	22,015	22,142	127	...	0·57	...
Total Hill districts ...	12	12	32,753	30,737	32,765	30,749	127	2,143	...	...
Net Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—2,016		—6·15	
Grand Total	3,77,312	3,77,464	51,83,591	53,90,635	55,60,903	57,68,099	2,91,898	84,702	...	...
Net Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	+2,07,196		3·73	

Excluding Sylhet, where the large increase (Rs. 1,93,424) was due to special causes, the net increase in the land revenue of the province was only Rs. 13,772, or 0·28 per cent. An examination of the causes of increase or decrease in each district will be found in the following paragraph :

9. *Cachar.*—The small increase (Rs. 2,761) is due partly to new settlements, but chiefly to the assessment at higher rates of waste land grants and *jangalburi* estates.

Explanation of increase and decrease in revenue.

Sylhet.—The large increase (Rs. 1,93,424), or 27·49 per cent., taken in connection with the marked decrease (8,237) in the number of temporarily-settled estates requires special explanation.

The current demand of each class of estates for the past two years was as follows :

Class of estates.	Current demand.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1897-98.	1898-99.		
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Permanently-settled estates ...	3,65,889	3,66,041	152	...
II. Temporarily-sttled estates—				
(*a*) Jaintia	1,43,941	3,15,027	1,71,086	...
(*b*) Hakaluki	1,428	1,201	...	227
(*c*) Pratabgarh	49,147	49,967	820	...
(*d*) Other parganas	1,43,241	1,64,834	21,593	...
Total II	3,37,757	5,31,029	1,93,499	227
Grand total	7,03,646	8,97,070	1,93,651	227
Net Increase	...	...	1,93,424	

The increase in Pratabgarh and other parganas and the decrease in Hakaluki and the permanently-settled area were due to ordinary causes.

In Jaintia the large increase (Rs. 171,086) was due partly to the resettlement of the parganas, which came into force on 1st April 1898, and resulted in an increase of Rs. 36,449 in the demand, and partly to the alteration of the date of the second instalment of revenue from various dates between April and June to the 15th February, which produced a fictitious increase of Rs. 1,37,379 in the demand of the year under report.

In the Brahmaputra Valley, there was a net increase of Rs. 13,027 over the demand of the previous year. In Kamrup there was a heavy decrease of Rs. 82,559, while the demand of the other districts of the valley increased by Rs. 95,586. The table below gives details of the increase and decrease in each district and of the variations in the demand of the different classes of estates :

District.	Estates annually settled at full rates (*khiraj*).	Estates periodically settled at full rates (*khiraj*).	Estates settled at half rates (*nim-khiraj*).	Special settlements.	Town lands.	Waste land settlements.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	+ 762	...	...	...	— 17	...	+ 745
Kamrup	—46,341	—36,534	+ 46	+172	—187	+ 285	—82,559
Darrang	+ 5,075	+ 2,525	— 27	— 9	+ 25	+ 5,907	+13,496
Nowgong	+21,688	—16,494	—102	— 55	+149	+ 6,357	+11,543
Sibsagar	+21,535	+ 4,867	...	— 64	— 21	+ 5,753	+32,070
Lakhimpur	+ 1,239	+29,436	+ 4	+ 20	— 25	+ 7,058	+37,732
Total	+ 3,958	—16,200	— 79	+ 64	— 76	+25,360	+13,027

In Kamrup the revenue demand decreased from Rs. 13,59,990 to Rs. 12,77,431. This district, which has hitherto had the greatest land revenue demand in the province, has now been outstripped by Sibsagar, where the demand for the year amounted to Rs. 13,13,316, against Rs. 12,81,246 in 1897-98. The decrease in Kamrup occurred both under the heads of estates annually and periodically settled at full rates, and is attributed to the effects of the earthquake, which led to a large number of estates being relinquished in the preceding year, but this explanation is not entirely adequate, as it might have been expected that the loss from relinquishment would have been made up for by new lands taken up in the year under review, which was generally favourable for agricultural operations. The satisfactory increase of Rs. 11,543 in the land revenue demand of the Nowgong district, which had declined steadily for some years before, is probably due to some abatement of the *kalá-ázár* epidemic, and also to the reforms effected in the Land Revenue Administration under the orders passed by the Chief Commissioner on the report of Mr. Lees, who was deputed last year to enquire into the effects of the earthquake and the causes of the decrease of land revenue demand in Nowgong and Kamrup. Greater care is now taken to prevent the improper exclusion of lands from settlement, and during the past cold season a thorough revision of the Land Records was carried out under the supervision of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture.

In other districts in the valley the increase in land revenue demand was due chiefly to extension of cultivation and to the assessment of waste land grants at higher rates. In Sibsagar the transfer of five mauzas from the Naga Hills contributed to the increase in the demand, and caused a corresponding decrease in the revenue demand of the Naga Hills.

Arrear demand.

10. The arrear demand on 1st April 1898, as shown in last year's report, was Rs. 4,24,956. Subsequent additions and reductions increased this figure to Rs. 4,83,445, details of which are given below :

District.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1898.	Changes made in the arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1898.		Arrear demand on 1st April 1898 as finally ascertained.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	15,299	259	834	14,724
Sylhet	40,719	53,885	141	94,463
Goalpara	103	295	..	398
Kamrup	23,618	1,520	...	25,138
Darrang	27,766*	262	...	28,028
Nowgong	1,41,961	417	...	1,42,378
Sibsagar	1,27,945	802	...	1,28,747
Lakhimpur	41,618	1,891	...	43,509
Naga Hills	10	...	...	10
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	2,433	133	...	2,566
Garo Hills	3,484	...	...	3,484
Total	4,24,956	59,464	975	4,83,445

* Revised figure.

The additions in the Surma Valley were to some extent due to the assessment of temporarily-settled estates with retrospective effect, but chiefly to the special addition of Rs. 51,038 in Sylhet as arrears due on the Balisira waste land grants, which were added to the revenue roll during the year under a deed of compromise entered into between Government, the Raja of Hill Tipperah, Messrs. Finlay, Muir, & Co., and the South Sylhet Tea Company, Limited.

In the Assam Valley, the additions effected during the year represent, as usual, the revenue due on concealed cultivation discovered and on lands which escaped assessment at the regular and supplementary settlements of the previous year.

Total demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

11. The total demand, collections, remissions, and balances of each district, are illustrated in detail in Statement No. IV in the Appendix. The statement below gives the figures in an abridged form :

District.	Demand.	Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	3,73,601	3,56,181	...	17,420
Sylhet	9,91,533	8,95,452	634	95,447
Goalpara	1,08,952	1,08,932	8	12
Kamrup	13,02,569	12,50,874	1,898	49,797
Darrang	7,30,968	6,91,137	1,086	38,745
Nowgong	7,23,979	5,81,749	3,007	1,39,223
Sibsagar	14,42,063	13,63,412	2,174	76,477
Lakhimpur	5,41,070	5,07,273	911	32,886
Naga Hills	20	20	...	...
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	11,163	11,116	...	47
Garo Hills	25,626	21,470	498	3,658
Total	62,51,544	57,87,616	10,216	4,53,712

Adding to the current revenue demand (Rs. 57,68,099) the corrected arrears (Rs. 4,83,445), the total demand for the year amounted to Rs. 62,51,544. Of this amount, Rs. 57,87,616, or 92·58 per cent., was realised during the year, against 92·56 per cent. in the previous year; Rs. 10,216, or ·16 per cent., was remitted, against ·12 per cent. in 1897-98, leaving an outstanding balance at the close of the year of Rs. 4,53,712, or 7·09 per cent. of the total demand. The percentage of total collections to the current demand of the year under report was 100·34, against 96·79 in the previous year. The current demand for theyear 1898-99 was Rs. 57,68,099, of which Rs. 54,19,813, or 93·96 per cent., was realised. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 4,83,445, Rs. 3,67,803, or 76·08 per cent., was realised. Cachar shows a slight increase in the outstanding balance at the close of the year. In Sylhet the Jaintia parganas were responsible for the bulk of the arrears (Rs. 95,447), which were more than double the arrears outstanding at the close of the previous year. This abnormal increase, however, was apparent only, and was due to the alteration of *kist*-dates in the Jaintia parganas.

In the Brahmaputra Valley, of the total demand of Rs. 48,49,601, inclusive of arrears, Rs. 45,03,377, or 92·84 per cent., were collected before the close of the year. Although the outstanding balance is less than that of the preceding year, the result of collections is disappointing, considering that the year was, on the whole, a prosperous one. The largest balances occurred in Nowgong (Rs. 1,39,223), Sibsagar (Rs. 76,477), and Kamrup (Rs. 49,797). Of the balance in Kamrup, Rs. 29,243 were only nominally outstanding, being arrears due on account of certain estates paying revenue direct into the treasury, which were actually realised before the close of the year by sale of the estates, but were held in deposit till the sales should become final. In Nowgong and Sibsagar, the heaviest arrears occur in the tahsils, and in the former district a considerable portion of the balances due on account of years up to and including 1897-98, will probably have to be written off as irrecoverable.

In Nowgong, the large arrears are reported to have been due to the dullness of the market for pulse and mustard, owing to which raiyats were unable to raise money to pay their revenue.

In the Sibsagar district, an improvement is noticeable, the arrears at the close of the year amounting to Rs. 76,477, against Rs. 1,27,945 in 1897-98. There was a marked improvement in the mauzadars' collections, which was due chiefly to the stricter enforcement of the *bakijai* procedure.

In the Lakhimpur district, some improvement is also noticeable, the arrears outstanding at the close of the year being Rs. 32,886, against Rs. 41,618 in the previous year. Of this amount, the sadr subdivision is responsible for Rs. 26,128, due chiefly to the incapacity of the sadr tahsildar at Dibrugarh.

The greater portion of the arrears due in the Garo Hills is due from raiyats living in the jurisdiction of bordering districts, over whom the mauzadars have very little control.

The outstanding balance at the close of the year had been reduced by the 1st September 1899 to Rs. 2,26,545, the details of which are given below:

District.	Amount.
	Rs.
Cachar	31
Sylhet	46,382
Goalpara	...
Kamrup	41,818
Darrang	8,079
Nowgong	83,867
Sibsagar	31,786
Lakhimpur	12,434
Garo Hills	2,148
Total	2,26,545

Forecast *versus* demand.

12. In the forecast of revenue for the six years ending 1902-03 submitted to the Government of India, the current demand of the year under report was estimated at Rs. 56,54,901. The actual current demand amounted to Rs. 57,68,099, of which Rs. 54,19,813 was realised during the year. The demand would have fallen short of the forecast by Rs. 24,181, but for the alteration of the *kist*-dates in the Jaintia parganas in Sylhet, owing to which a sum of Rs. 1,37,379, which would ordinarily have become due in April 1899, became payable in February 1899, *i.e.*, within the financial year 1898-99.

Remissions.

13. Remissions during the year to the extent of Rs. 10,216 were allowed, against Rs. 7,091 in the preceding year. In Sylhet, Rs. 634 were remitted, partly on the ground of the defaulters having no property, and partly in consideration of the loss sustained by them in the earthquake of the 12th June 1897. In the Goalpara district, Rs. 8 was remitted in consequence of deaths and desertions. In the Kamrup district, the details of the amount remitted (Rs. 1,898) were —

	Rs.
(1) Annulment of settlement	312
(2) Wrong assessment	37
(3) Deaths and desertions	361
(4) Absence of sufficient bids for estates sold	45
(5) Settlements annulled in 1897-98, but included in the settlement of 1898-99	1,143
Total	1,898

The amount remitted in the district of Darrang was Rs. 1,086, as detailed below :

	Rs.
(1) Deaths and desertions	849
(2) Annulments of settlement	237
Total	1,086

In Nowgong the amount remitted was Rs. 3,007, as detailed below :

	Rs.
(1) On account of mistake in calculation	306
(2) Wrong assessment	65
(3) Deaths and desertions	2,636
Total	3,007

In Sibsagar a sum of Rs. 43 was remitted on account of deaths and desertions in the Jorhat tahsil, and Rs. 2,131 were remitted in the Sibsagar tahsil on revision of the terms of settlement of a grant on special conditions held by Babu Akhoy Kumar Ghose. Of the remission of Rs. 911 in the Lakhimpur district, Rs. 712 represent the revenue of raiyats' *pattas* (both annual and decennial) in mauza Makum, which were cancelled, as they fell within the boundaries of the Ledo and Namdang blocks, applied for by, and granted to, the Assam Railways and Trading Company. The balance of Rs. 199 represents the irrecoverable revenue of the sadr tahsil.

14. The table below shows the particulars and cost of collections in the tahsils of the Surma Valley :

Charges for collection of Government revenue.

(*a*) Surma Valley.

Name of tahsil.	Amount collected within the year.					Cost of collection.	Percentage of cost to amounts collected.
	Land revenue.	Local rates.	Fishery revenue.	House and poll-tax.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Cachar—							
Sadr	2,00,074	18,366	3,914	946	2,23,300	5,025	2·25
Hailakandi	94,609	8,240	...	138	1,02,987	3,727	3·62
Katigora	59,859	4,283	3,528	214	67,884	2,445	3·60
Total for Cachar	3,54,542	30,889	7,442	1,298	3,94,171	11,197	2·84
Sylhet—							
Sadr	97,632	40,903	6,300	...	1,44,835	3,769	2·60
Habiganj	1,40,758	55,486	10,514	225	2,06,983	3,180	1·54
South Sylhet	1,86,480	43,173	1,621	604	2,31,878	3,348	1·44
Karimganj	1,47,397	43,710	4,983	735	1,96,825	3,180	1·62
Sunamganj	41,818	36,734	6,432	...	84,984	995	1·17
Jaintia { Sadr	1,12,006	7,976	12,067	...	1,32,049	4,246	3·22
Jaintia { Kanairghat	1,26,800	7,852	2,480	12	1,37,144	3,124	2·28
Hakaluki	1,200	61	11,940	...	13,201	645	4·89
Total for Sylhet	8,54,091	2,35,895	56,337	1,576	11,47,899	22,487	1·96
Grand total for Surma Valley	12,08,633	2,66,784	63,779	2,874	15,42,070	33,684	2·18

The variations in the percentages of cost of collections to the amounts collected, compared with the previous year, were slight.

(*b*) Brahmaputra Valley.

The two statements below show the charges for collection in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley for the past two years, and the proportion which the cost of collection bears to the amount collected :

I.—Collections in Tahsils.

District.	Collections by Tahsildars.		Other collections.		Total		Charges on collections by Tahsildars.						Percentage of charges to			
							Salary of Tahsildars and their establishment.		Salary of Mandals.		Total.		Collections by Tahsildars.		Total collections.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
Goalpara ...	33,916	33,775	...	...	33,916	33,775	936	815	874	918	1,810	1,732	5·33	5·13	5·33	5·13
Kamrup ...	11,66,635	11,23,632	1,19,863	62,837	12,86,498	11,86,469	12,379	12,675	13,242	8,858	25,621	21,533	2·20	1·92	1·99	1·82
Darrang ...	4,59,813	4,50,562	40,902	39,909	5,00,715	4,90,471	5,038	5,632	5,170	5,018	10,208	10,650	2·23	2·36	2·04	2·17
Nowgong ...	1,99,456	2,24,056	...	...	1,99,456	2,24,056	3,219	3,104	2,590	2,877	5,809	5,981	2·91	2·67	2·91	2·67
Sibsagar ...	5,99,721	6,39,932	14,038	16,328	6,13,759	6,56,260	5,810	5,705	3,094	5,018	8,904	10,723	1·48	1·67	1·45	1·64
Lakhimpur ...	94,538	1,21,096	2,935	3,987	97,473	1,25,083	1,035	1,034	1,078	938	2,113	1,972	2·23	1·62	2·16	1·57
Total ...	25,54,079	26,93,063	1,77,738	1,23,061	27,31,817	27,16,124	28,467	28,965	26,048	23,627	54,515	52,592	2·13	2·03	1·99	1·94

II.—Collections in Mauzas outside Tahsils.

District.	Collections by Mauzadars.		Other collections.		Total.		Charges on collections by Mauzadars.						Percentage of charges to			
							Commission of Mauzadars.		Salary of Mandals.		Total.		Collections by Mauzadars.		Total collections.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
Goalpara ...	62,306	63,544	202	202	62,508	63,746	2,294	2,331	828	896	3,122	3,227	5·01	5·07	4·99	5·06
Kamrup ...	91,219	65,008	...	...	91,219	65,008	3,296	2,691	1,643	1,085	4,939	3,776	5·41	5·81	5·41	5·81
Darrang ...	1,77,231	1,91,011	...	9,655	1,77,231	2,00,666	6,510	6,525	2,453	2,404	8,963	8,929	5·05	4·67	5·05	4·44
Nowgong ...	2,95,969	3,23,136	27,581	34,547	3,23,550	3,57,683	9,788	11,216	5,951	5,728	15,739	16,944	5·31	5·24	4·86	4·73
Sibsagar ...	5,96,510	6,78,880	22,420	28,272	6,18,930	7,07,152	16,994	20,734	4,542	7,153	21,536	27,887	3·61	4·10	3·47	3·94
Lakhimpur ...	3,13,927	3,56,073	20,111	26,117	3,34,038	3,82,190	11,192	16,550	4,778	4,220	15,970	20,770	5·08	4·64	4·78	6·43
Total ...	15,37,162	16,77,652	70,314	98,793	16,07,476	17,76,445	50,074	60,047	20,195	21,486	70,269	81,533	4·57	4·85	3·38	4·59

Following the practice of previous years, only half the salary of tahsildars and their establishments and half that of mauzadars and mandals have been debited to collection charges, while the commission of 30 per cent. paid to the Beltola mauzadar, which is in reality a pension, has been omitted.

On the whole, there was a decrease in the charges on collections by tahsildars, the only districts which showed a slight increase being Darrang and Sibsagar, due in the former to decreased collections, and in the latter to the inclusion in collection charges of the allowances paid to the officer appointed to act for the sadr tahsildar during the latter's absence on leave. On the other hand, there was an increase in the charges on collections by mauzadars in all the districts of the valley, except Kamrup and Darrang. In the districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur, the charges were much higher than in the previous year. In Sibsagar the increase, which amounted to Rs. 6,351, was due to commissions paid to mauzadars for arrear balances of the previous year and to payment of arrear salary of mandals. In Lakhimpur, the increase was due to larger collections during the year.

The statement below shows the balances outstanding in tahsils and mauzas in the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of the year, as well as those at the end of 1897-98 :

District.	Outstanding balance on 1st April 1898		Outstanding balance on 1st April 1899			
			In tahsils.		In mauzas.	
	In tahsils.	In mauzas.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	103	...	12	...	...	...
Kamrup	23,618	...	46,816(*a*)	2,981	...	...
Darrang	20,516	...	36,296(*b*)	2,449	...	...
Nowgong	1,01,254	38,126	55,244(*c*)	59,186(*c*)	17,535	7,258
Sibsagar	67,190	59,426	40,666(*d*)	15,677	20,134	...
Lakhimpur	27,037	14,581	19,890	4,914	8,082	...
Total	2,39,718	1,12,133	1,98,924	85,207	45,751	7,258

(*a*) Of this amount, Rs. 29,736 represent arrears of estates settled independently, and not included in mauzas.
(*b*) Including Rs. 808 on account of *nisf-khiraj* and waste land grants.
(*c*) Including Rs. 1,353 and Rs. 102, respectively, on account of waste land grants and *nisf-khiraj* estates.
(*d*) Including Rs. 279 on account of grants.

The outstanding balance on 1st April 1898 had been reduced from Rs. 2,39,718 to Rs. 85,207 in tahsils, and from Rs. 1,12,133 to Rs. 7,258 in mauzas, by the close of the year.

Collection establishment in the Brahmaputra Valley.

15. The following statement shows the strength of the fixed establishment entertained for the collection of land revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley at the close of 1898-99, as compared with the previous year:

District.	Area of each district, in square miles.	Number of Tahsildars		Number of Mauzadars		Average area of each tahsil.	Average area of each mauza.
		On 31st March 1898.	On 31st March 1899.	On 31st March 1898.	On 31st March 1899.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Eastern Duars	1,570·00	1	1	6	6	374·19	199·30
Kamrup	3,660·31	12	12	8	8	237·19	116·28
Darrang	3,416·00	5	5	13	13	276·10*	136·78
Nowgong	3,259·00	3	3	23	31	136·62	109·58
Sibsagar	2,822·00	5	5	23	28	182·40	83·04
Lakhimpur	3,723·00	1	1	31	31	329·04	120·96
Grand total	18,450·31	27	27	104	117	231·55*	114·32

* Revised figures.

There was no change in the number of tahsildars during the year. In the number of mauzadars, there has been an increase of 13, *viz.*, 8 in Nowgong and 5 in Sibsagar. Five mauzas were transferred from the Naga Hills to each of the districts of Sibsagar and Nowgong, and in Nowgong the mauzas of Myang, Mikirbhetta, and Borbhogia were each split up into two parts, each part being placed, for convenience of management, in charge of a separate mauzadar.

The following statement shows the total strength of the agency employed for the collection of land revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley during each of the past five years:

year.	Tahsildars.	Mauzadars.
1894-95	24	111
1895-96	26	104
1896-97	27	98
1897-98	27	104
1898-99	27	117

Alienation of land revenue.

Under the orders of the Government of India, conveyed in their Revenue and Agricultural Circular No. 2—369-14, dated the 16th July 1898, two statements are appended, the first showing the amount of land revenue assigned or alienated, and the second the distribution of this amount according to the purpose of the alienation. The statements relate only to tracts which are temporarily settled. Clearance grants, redeemed grants, or grants under waste land rules, held either in perpetuity or for a period on favourable terms, have been excluded:

District.	Area of which revenue has been wholly or partly assigned or alienated.	Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.	Actual land revenue paid.	Amount of assignment or alienation.
1	2	3	4	5
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	2,296	1,091	...	1,091
Sylhet	7,264	7,238	30	7,208
Kamrup	184,158	3,54,722	1,52,455	2,02,267
Darrang	36,925	42,596	16,489	26,107
Nowgong	7,744	14,506	4,444	10,062
Sibsagar	44,159	30,001	3,561	26,440
Lakhimpur	4,337	6,030	1,858	4,172
Total	286,883	4,56,184	1,78,837	2,77,347

Purpose of assignment or alienation.	Area.	Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.	Actual land revenue paid.	Amount of assignment or alienation.
1	2	3	4	5
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
For the maintenance of public servants* ...	2,715	2,809	...	2,809
On other grounds	284,168	4,53,375	1,78,837	2,74,538
Total	286,883	4,56,184	1,78,837	2,77,347

	Area, in acres.	Land revenue assigned or alienated, Rs.
* (1) *Baksha* in Cachar	1,821	788
(2) *Nagakhat* in Sibsagar	754	1,666
(3) *Hataki* and *chaukidari* in Lakhimpur ...	140	355
Total	2,715	2,809

SECTION III.

MISCELLANEOUS LAND REVENUE.

Current demand of miscellaneous land revenue.

16. Statement No. V in the Appendix shows the demand, collections, remissions, and balances of miscellaneous land revenue in each district. The following table compares the current demand of the year under each head with that of the preceding year:

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(1) Elephants—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
(a) License-fees	16,719	9,250	...	7,469	...	44·67
(b) Royalty	31,300	21,500	...	9,800	...	31·31
Total Elephants	48,019	30,750	...	17,269	...	35·96
Net Decrease	...	...	—17,269		—35·96	
(2) Fisheries	1,51,168	1,41,036	...	10,132	...	6·70
(3) Poll-tax	14,308	8,930	...	5,378	...	37·59
(4) House-tax	1,50,140	1,48,460	...	1,680	...	1·12
(5) Lime-quarries	8,539	20,802	12,263	...	143·61	...
(6) Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...
(7) Coal-mines and mineral oil	39,026	37,448	...	1,578	...	4·04
(8) Sale of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	24,898	27,679	2,781	...	11·17	...
(9) Survey-fees	26,426	11,772	...	14,654	...	55·45
(10) Mutation and registration-fees ...	81	...	...	81	...	100·00
(11) Other miscellaneous items not specified above	8,394	8,431	37	...	0·44	...
Grand total	4,70,999	4,35,308	15,081	50,772	3·20	10·78
Net Decrease	...	...	—35,691		7·58	

The total revenue demand of the year was Rs. 4,35,308, against Rs. 4,70,999 in 1897-98, there being a net decrease of Rs. 35,691, or 7·58 per cent., which occurred chiefly under the heads Elephants, Fisheries, Poll-tax, and Survey-fees.

Explanation of increase and decrease.

17. (1) *Elephants* (*decrease Rs.* 17,269).—There was a decrease both under the heads License-fees and Royalty, the former being responsible for Rs. 7,469 of the total decrease, and the latter for Rs. 9,800. The revenue from license-fees fell off chiefly in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the Naga Hills. Owing to inadequate bids at the auction sales, no mahal was leased in the former district, while in the latter the elephant mahals were kept closed during the year under report to allow them rest. In the Goalpara and Nowgong districts also, the mahals were closed during the year.

(2) *Fisheries* (*decrease Rs.* 10,132).—Of the total decrease, the Brahmaputra Valley is responsible for Rs. 7,769—a result due to the injury caused by the earthquake to certain fisheries in the Kamrup district, where the revenue demand under this head fell from Rs. 22,409 to Rs. 9,528.

(3) *Poll-tax* (*decrease Rs.* 5,378).—This decrease occurred almost entirely in the district of Lakhimpur owing to the substitution of land revenue assessment for poll-tax in several Miri villages. There was a small decrease of Rs. 321 in Sylhet, due to the exemption of females from the assessment of *dao*-tax, and to a revision of assessment of certain Tipperah *punjis*.

(4) *House-tax* (*decrease Rs.* 1,680).—The small decrease under this head occurred entirely in the Naga Hills, owing partly to deaths in several tracts and partly to a number of houses having been burnt in some villages. A portion of the area recently transferred from the Naga Hills to the Sibsagar district could not be brought under assessment during 1898-99 pending the final determination of its boundaries.

(5) *Lime-quarries* (*increase Rs.* 12,263).—Lime-quarries are worked only in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills. The increase is due to a larger output of lime consequent on the great demand for lime occasioned by the erection of new buildings in Assam and the eastern parts of Bengal.

(6) *Stone-quarries* —No stone-quarries were worked during the year.

(7) *Coal-mines and mineral oil* (*decrease Rs.* 1,578).—The decrease occurred mainly under the head Royalty on coal, and was due to the fact that the Assam Railways and Trading Company extracted a smaller amount of coal from the Ledo and Tikak mines, on which royalty is paid, and worked more extensively the Namdang and Tirap grants, on which they are not required to pay royalty, but only a surface-rent. There has been no change in the demand on account of mineral oil, which at present consists only of surface-rents on the concessions. The Company extracted 555,204 gallons of mineral oil from their wells, against 222,077 in 1897-98. The amalgamation of the two Companies (Assam Railways and Trading Company and Assam Oil Syndicate) in 1897-98, and the importation of fresh capital into the business, will no doubt lead to the working of the concessions on a much larger and more efficient scale.

(8) *Sale of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue* (*increase Rs.* 2,781). —The small increase under this head is due to ordinary fluctuation, and calls for no special notice.

(9) *Survey-fees* (*decrease Rs.* 14,654).—A decrease under this head occurred in all the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, except Nowgong, and is due to a falling-off in the number of applications for waste land received during the year. In Cachar, the number of applications decreased owing to the restrictions laid down on granting land under Section I of the Settlement Rules in the plains portion of the district.

(10) *Mutation and registration-fees* (*decrease Rs.* 81).—This calls for no special remarks.

(11) *Miscellaneous* (*increase Rs.* 37).—Under this head are included partition fees fees on account of gold-washing licenses, sale-proceeds of ivory, and some other minor items. The increase was chiefly due to an increase in the sale-proceeds of ivory in the Brahmaputra Valley and the Garo Hills district.

Arrear demand.

18. The arrear demand at the close of 1897-98 was shown to be Rs. 28,790, but the figure has since been corrected to Rs. 28,835, as shown in the statement below:

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Arrear demand as reported on 1st April 1898.	Changes made in arrear demand in consequence of further enquiries made after 1st April 1898.		Arrear demand on 1st April 1898 as finally ascertained.
		Additions.	Reductions.	
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. License-fees for catching elephants ...	1,424	...	...	1,424
2. Royalty on elephants	5,200	...	...	5,200
3. Fisheries	15,863	40	...	15,903
4. Poll-tax	651	...	193	458
5. House-tax	5,609	18	...	5,627
6. Miscellaneous	43	230	...	273
Total	28,790*	288	193	28,885

* Revised figure.

Total demand, collections and balances.

19. The total demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue, including arrears, was Rs. 4,64,193, of which Rs. 4,37,196, or 94·18 per cent., was realised, Rs. 4,024, or 0·87 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 22,973, or 4·95 per cent., remained outstanding at the close of the year. The current demand of the year was Rs. 4,35,308, of which Rs. 4,14,098, or 95·13 per cent., was realised. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 28,885, an amount of Rs. 23,098, or 79·97 per cent., was realised during the year under report. The proportion of the total collection (current and arrear) to the current demand was 100·43 per cent. Details for each district are given in the statement below:

District.	Demands.	Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.	Percentage of		
					Collections.	Remissions.	Balances.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Cachar	30,387	24,394	...	5,993	80·28	...	19·72
Sylhet	72,111	59,303	2,627	10,181	82·24	3·64	14·12
Goalpara	1,935	1,935	...	...	100·00	...	...
Kamrup	16,962	16,203	389	370	95·53	2·29	2·18
Darrang	29,404	28,516	740	148	96·98	2·52	0·50
Nowgong	21,819	20,602	...	1,217	94·42	...	5·58
Sibsagar	51,583	51,041	...	542	98·95	...	1·05
Lakhimpur	74,920	74,680	...	240	99·68	...	0·32
Naga Hills	64,747	60,790	...	3,957	93·89	...	6·11
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	58,845	58,401	268	176	99·25	0·45	0·30
Garo Hills	41,480	41,331	...	149	99·64	...	0·36
Total	4,64,193	4,37,196	4,024	22,973	94·18	0·87	4·95

It will be seen from the above statement that there was a total balance of Rs. 22,973 outstanding at the close of the year. Of this, the amount of Rs. 240 against Lakhimpur has since been realised in full, and out of Rs. 542 against Sibsagar, Rs. 380 have been realised and Rs. 162 remitted since the close of the year. Of the balance of Rs. 1,217 against Nowgong, Rs. 958 have been realised and Rs. 45 have been remitted. Of the balances of Rs. 370 and Rs. 148 against Kamrup and Darrang, Rs. 155 have been realised and Rs. 4 remitted in Kamrup, and Rs. 147 realised in Darrang since the close of the year. The rest is in course of recovery.

The whole balance of Rs. 5,993 in Cachar has since been realised. In Sylhet Rs. 10,181 remained outstanding at the close of the year, of which Rs. 5,131 has since been realised. Rupees 556 will probably have to be remitted, and the balance is in course of realisation. Of the balance of Rs. 3,957 outstanding against the Naga Hills district, Rs. 3,357 have been realised since the close of the year.

Remissions.

20 During the year Rs. 2,627 was remitted in Sylhet, of which Rs. 2,619 was on account of fishery revenue, the remissions being in all cases granted owing to losses sustained in the earthquake. The balance (Rs. 8) was due on account of poll-tax, and was remitted, as the defaulters had no property. In Kamrup Rs. 359 was remitted under the head of Fishery and Rs. 30 under House-tax. In Darrang the total remission of Rs. 740 was under the head of Fishery. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, the total remission was made up of Rs. 200 under Fishery and Rs. 68 under House-tax.

SECTION IV.

PROCESSES FOR THE RECOVERY OF ARREARS OF REVENUE.

Laws and Rules under which arrears of revenue are realised.

21. There was no change in the procedure followed in realising revenue.

Working of the Sale Law in Sylhet.

22. Details of the working of the Sale Law in Sylhet during the past two years are given in the following statement. The particulars shown in the last two columns of the statement relate to revenue-free estates, against which proceedings were taken for the recovery of local rates:

	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.				Revenue-free tenures.	
			Jaintia.		Others.			
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Number of estates in arrear.	13,229	13,315	13,839	45,734	6,060	6,431	172	215
2. Government demand, Rs.	4,84,868	4,51,770	1,74,670	3,42,024	1,65,490	1,91,178	2,269	3,082
3. Amount of arrears, Rs....	1,87,115	2,09,377	1,28,570	1,97,598	1,04,811 (a)	1,02,005	1,600	2,159
4. Number of estates in arrear, the arrears of which were paid up before notice of demand or proclamation of sale issued under section 68 or 70 ...	4,076	3,004	4,465	18,099	2,041	891	39	66
5. Number of estates against which notice of demand issued under section 68 ...	...	...	9,374	27,635	3,894	4,892 (b)	...	...
6. Amount of arrears for which notice of demand issued, Rs.	...	...	92,538	1,21,737	72,779	75,268	...	...
7. Number of estates arrears of which were realised after notice of demand ...	...	...	779	5,575	2,447	1,903	...	...

(a) Revised figures.

(b) This is exclusive of 648 estates with an arrear of below four annas each.

—	Permanently-settled estates.		Temporarily-settled estates.				Revenue-free tenures.	
			Jaintia.		Others.			
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8. Number of estates in respect of which notice of attachment of moveable property issued under section 69	...	...	52	9	1,447	2,989	...	...
9. Amount of arrears for which notice of attachment issued, Rs.	...	...	205	16	24,967	34,005	...	...
10. Number of estates arrears of which were realised after notice of attachment of moveables	...	...	47	...	1,277	1,439	...	...
11. Number of estates in respect of which notice of sale of moveable property under section 69 issued ...	...	...	5	...	168	1,543	...	...
12. Amount of arrears for which moveable property was sold, Rs. ...	...	...	29	...	1,265	2,957	...	...
13. Number of estates against which proclamation of sale issued under section 72	6,140	8,383 (*a*)	3,462	21,412 (*b*)	2	7	74	116 (*c*)
14. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of sale issued, Rs.	1,42,294	1,90,124	56,015	91,622	133	978	1,471	1,454
15. Number of estates arrears of which were paid up under section 75 after proclamation of sale issued	5,910	8,024	2,474	11,955	1	7	65	99
16. Number of sales of estates for arrears of revenue	230	222 (*d*)	52	145 (*e*)	1	...	10	16
17. Amount of arrears for which the estates were sold, Rs.	771	1,956	499	2,319	5	...	10	9
18. Price fetched at auction sales of estates, Rs. ...	80,880	91,301	3,112	12,275	32	...	334	627
19. Number of estates purchased by Government ...	8	10	...	...	...	...	...	1
20. Amount of arrears for which estates purchased by Government were sold, Rs.	10	25	...	...	...	...	...	1
21. Number of estates of which settlement was annulled under section 90.	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
22. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of annulment issued, Rs. ...	...	...	...	...	...	465	...	...

(*a*) This is exclusive of 1,928 estates with an arrear of below four annas each.

(*b*) Ditto 648 ditto ditto.

(*c*) Ditto 33 ditto ditto.

(*d*) This is inclusive of two resales and exclusive of 139 estates, of which 136 were exempted from sale, and the date of sale for the remaining three has been fixed, these estates being in arrear for the February *kist* of 1899.

(*e*) This is exclusive of 9,312 estates, of which 4,174 were exempted from sale, and the date for sale of the remaining 5,138 has been fixed.

There was a slight increase of 86 in the number of permanently-settled estates, which fell into arrears during the year under report, as compared with the previous year. There was, however, a decrease of eight in the number of estates sold.

The number of estates in arrears in the Jaintia parganas rose from 13,839 in 1897-98 to 45,734 during the year under review. This marked difference is mainly due to the alteration of the *kist*-dates by which the instalment of revenue, which was formerly payable in April 1899, became due in February 1899. In the case of 23,674 estates, the arrears were, however, paid up before the issue of any coercive processes. Against 648 estates no notice of sale was issued, the arrears in each case being less than 4 annas. Coercive processes were issued in 21,412 cases, and 4,174 estates were exempted from sale for want of adequate bids.

In other parganas the number of defaulting estates shows a slight increase, while the amount in arrears shows a falling-off owing to a large number of small holdings in Pratabgarh having fallen into arrears.

The number of revenue-free estates defaulting in the payment of local rates increased from 172 in 1897-98 to 215 in 1898-99. Sixteen such estates were sold during the year, including two resales, and fetched an aggregate price of Rs. 627, the amount of local rates assessed on them being Rs. 9.

Result of applications for annulment of sales in Sylhet.

23. The number of applications for annulment of sales for disposal was 139 (57 pending at the close of 1897-98 and 82 presented during the year). Sales were cancelled in 57 cases, confirmed in 35 cases, and the remaining 47 applications remained undisposed of at the close of the year.

Separate accounts in Sylhet.

24. At the commencement of the year there were 211 applications to open separate accounts pending, and 984 were filed during the year, making a total of 1,195 applications for disposal. Of these, 658 were granted, 239 rejected, and 298 left pending at the close of the year 1898-99.

Recovery of arrears of land revenue in Cachar.

25. The subjoined statement shows the steps taken for the realisation of arrears of land revenue in Cachar during the year under report and in the preceding year :

	1897-98.	1898-89.
1. Number of estates in arrear	10,310	7,958
2. Government demand, Rs.	3,71,340	3,73,601
3. Amount of arrears, Rs.	81,787	69,827
4. Number of estates in arrears which paid up before notice of demand or proclamation of sale issued under section 68 or 70 ...	3,673	2,505
5. Number of estates against which notice of demand issued under section 68	6,155	4,999
6. Amount of arrears for which notice of demand issued, Rs.	43,399	44,283
7. Number of estates of which arrears were realised after notice of demand	2,864	1,813
8. Number of estates in respect of which notice of attachment of moveable property issued under section 69	3,343	3,126
9. Amount of arrears for which notice of attachment issued, Rs.	25,459	21,395
10. Number of estates of which arrears were realised after notice of attachment of moveables ...	2,231	2,162
11. Number of estates in respect of which sale of moveable property under section 69 occurred ...	11	6
12. Amount of arrears for which moveables were sold, Rs.	17	32
13. Number of estates against which proclamation of sale issued under section 72	9	25
14. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of sale issued, Rs.	49	495

	1897-98.	1898-99.
15. Number of estates which paid up under section 75 after issue of proclamation of sale ...	3	19
16. Number of estates sold for arrears under section 70	3	6
17. Amount of arrears for which estates were sold, Rs.	27	61
18. Price fetched at auction-sale of estates ...	28	101
19. Number of estates purchased by Government...	...	...
20. Amount of arrears for which estates purchased by Government were sold, Rs.	...	...
21. Number of estates of which settlement was annulled under section 90	...	...
22. Amount of arrears for which proclamation of annulment issued, Rs.	...	...

There was a marked decrease both in the number of defaulting estates and in the amount of arrears, as compared with the previous year.

Working of the Sale Law in Goalpara.

26. The land revenue and local rates due on the permanently-settled estates in the district of Goalpara were punctually paid. The zamindars of Mechpara, who were in arrears, were allowed time pending decision of their appeal against the order of the Deputy Commissioner increasing the local rates assessed on their estates ; there was, therefore, no necessity to resort to coercive processes in respect of this class of estates.

Working of the process of demand system in the Brahmaputra Valley.

27. The subjoined statement shows the working of the system of realisation of arrears of revenue by means of processes of demand in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley during the past two years :

District.	Number of revenue-paying estates in the district.	Number of estates on the owners of which notice of demand issued.	Amount of revenue in arrears for which notice of demand issued.	Amount of revenue paid after issue of notice of demand.	Number of cases in which property had to be attached.	
					Moveables.	Estates.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.	Rs.		
Goalpara ... 1897-98 ...	17,509	380	1,948	1,323	88	...
1898-99 ...	19,390	709	4,489	2,583	53	...
Kamrup ... 1897-98 ...	184,583	6,041	2,23,805	78,911	1,104	357
1898-99 ...	175,067	10,327	3,10,388	1,67,091	1,966	274
Darrang ... 1897-98 ...	116,932	6,813	59,075	28,484	1,203	125
1898-99 ...	122,258	6,343	57,434	28,694	1,090	97
Nowgong ... 1897-98 ...	126,440	7,943	82,116	45,087	2,994	341
1898-99 ...	131,671	7,482	86,864	52,238	2,210	116
Sibsagar ... 1897-98 ...	178,067	8,579	1,70,155	88,171	2,682	277
1898-99 ...	184,040	12,418	1,06,732	1,36,445	2,511	533
Lakhimpur ... 1897-98 ...	65,049	5,514	48,033	17,656	1,036	58
1898-99 ...	72,273	12,859	66,469	38,305	871	32
Total ... 1897-98 ...	688,580	35,270	5,85,132	2,59,632	9,107	1,158
1898-99 ...	704,699	50,138	6,32,376	4,25,356	8,701	1,052

District.		Amount of arrears for which property was attached.	Number of cases in which notice of sale had to be issued.	Amount of arrears for which sale notice was issued.	Number of cases in which property had to be sold.		Amount of arrears for which property was sold.	Percentage of column 3 on column 2.
					Moveables.	Estates.		
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.	
Goalpara ...	1897-98 ...	510	2	63	1	...	45	2·17
	1898-99 ...	431	5	17	4	...	17	3·65
Kamrup ...	1897-98 ..	1,32,812	604	55,814	67	70	4,618	3·27
	1898-99 ...	97,617	362	16,682	73	88	32,841	5·89
Darrang ...	1897-98 ...	14,777	730	5,813	74	15	717	5·82
	1898-99 ...	12,260	823	7,019	182	15	853	5·18
Nowgong ...	1897-98 ...	12,193	169	1,362	109	8	858	6·28
	1898-99 ...	12,385	205	1,718	131	26	1,322	5·68
Sibsagar ...	1897-98 ...	72,090	239	3,673	17	48	1,450	4·82
	1898-99 ...	86,433	542	10,745	29	151	1,615	6·74
Lakhimpur ...	1897-98 ...	18,314	144	2,090	39	25	788	8·48
	1898-99 ...	14,711	134	4,479	119	19	938	17·79
Total ...	1897-98 ...	2,50,696	1,888	68,815	307	166	8,476	5·12
	1898-99 ...	2,23,837	2,071	40,660	538	299	37,586	7·11

Coercive processes.

28 The number of notices of demand issued was 50,138, against 35,270 in the preceding year; moveable property was sold for arrears of land revenue in 538 cases, against 307; and 299 estates were sold, against 166. One explanation of this increase in the employment of coercive processes is that in the preceding year, special consideration had to be shown in the realisation of revenue from tracts which had suffered from the effects of the earthquake and subsequent floods; but a comparison with the figures of previous years appears to show that there is a general tendency to issue notices of demand more freely than was formerly the practice. This must be attributed to the extension of the tahsil system, tahsildars being required to collect the demand punctually, whereas greater laxity is allowed by mauzadars, who often pay the revenue into the treasury before they have collected it from the raiyats. The tahsildars first appointed, who belonged for the most part to the mauzadar class, in many instances began by adopting the same laxity of procedure as mauzadars, with the result that heavy arrears accumulated; but now that the tahsil system has become more developed and better understood, efforts are being made to attain greater punctuality by enforcing the coercive provisions of the law. The large arrears which still remain uncollected at the end of the year, especially in tahsils in the upper districts of the valley, show that there is need for these exertions. As usual, in all, except an insignificant proportion of the cases in which notice of demand issued, the arrear was paid up without any further process—a fact which shows that in nearly all cases the arrears were due to mere carelessness and procrastination, and not to inability of the settlement-holders to pay the demand. It also indicates that there is not much foundation in the complaints which have been made regarding the oppressive incidence of the process-fees charged on notices of demand in tahsils.

Comparison with previous years.

29. The two tables below compare the number of notices of demand issued and the number of estates sold for arrears of revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley in each of the past four years:

Notices of demand.

Years.	Number.	Percentage on the total number of estates.
1895-96	34,468	5·23
1896-97	38,657	5·75
1897-98	35,270	5·12
1898-99	50,138	7·11

Estates sold for arrears of revenue.

Subdivision.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
Dhubri	...	...	...	...
Barpeta	4	1	18*	2
Gauhati	16	53	52	86
Mangaldai	9	20	4	5
Tezpur	21	12	11	10
Nowgong	29	20	8	26
Golaghat	9	36	21	46
Jorhat	1	26	10	15
Sibsagar	5	9	17	90
North Lakhimpur	18	12	3*	11
Dibrugarh	4	68	22	8
Total	116	257	166*	299

* Revised figures.

Annulment of settlement in the Brahmaputra Valley.

30. In all, the settlement of 105 estates, *viz.*, 44 in Kamrup, 55 in Darrang, and 6 in Jorhat, was formally annulled during the year, against 272 in the previous year.

SECTION V.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS FOR ORDINARY CULTIVATION.

Ordinary settlements in Cachar.

31. In Cachar, 658 applications for settlement of land for ordinary cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules were registered during the year, against 988 in the preceding year; adding to these the 796 applications which remained pending at the beginning of the year, the total number of applications for disposal amounted in all to 1,454. Of these, 830 were disposed of, leaving 624 pending at the close of the year.

The statement below shows the settled and unsettled area of the sadr and Hailakandi subdivisions of the Cachar district :

Division.	Total area of the subdivision and the district, in acres.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentages of area settled (column 5) to the total area (column 2) of the subdivision and the district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue-free, including fee-simple.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Silchar ...	1,249,280	345,851	97,321	443,172	399,144	406,964	35·47
Hailakandi ...	332,800	121,904	50,769	172,673	51,200	108,927	51·88
Total ...	1,582,080	467,755	148,090	615,845	450,344	515,891	38·93

The percentage of the total area settled for the last ten years is as follows:

1889-90	37·10
1890-91	37·52
1891-92	37·60
1892-93	37·73
1893-94	37·95
1894-95	38·30
1895-96	38·58
1896-97	38·65
1897-98	38·78
1898-99	38·93

Ordinary settlements in Sylhet.

31A. The table below gives details of applications for settlement, under Section III of the Settlement Rules, of lands in Sylhet required for ordinary cultivation during each of the past two years:

	1897-98.	1898-99.
1. Applications pending when the year began	650	297
2. Ditto made during the year	1,044	379
3. Number of settlements made during the year ...	13	27
4. Area, in acres	1,047	109
5. Revenue assessed, Rs...	885	112
6. Number of applications made over to the *Ilam* Settlement Officer		367
7. Ditto struck off	1,384	149
8. Ditto pending when the year closed ...	297	133

One hundred and forty-nine applications were struck off during the year from the register of applications for periodic leases; of these, annual leases were granted in 91 cases, and 58 cases were removed from the register for various causes. One hundred and thirty-three applications remained pending at the close of the year, against 297 in the previous year.

The following statement shows the proportion which the settled area bears to the whole area of the Sylhet district:

—	Total area of the subdivision and the district.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentage of area settled (column 5) to the total area (column 2) of the subdivision and the district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue-free, including fee-simpe.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Jaintia	309,939	203,703	7,177	210,880	.....	99,059	68·04
Sylhet Proper	3,149,440	2,751,162	32,464	2,783,626	76,800	289,014	88·38
Total	3,459,379	2,954,865	39,641	2,994,506	76,800	388,073	86·56

Including the permanently-settled area, the proportion borne by the settled area to the total area of the district in 1898-99 was 86·56, against 85·84 per cent. in the previous year. The progress in settlement has been continuous during the past ten years.

Settlement in the Brahmaputra Valley.

32. The following statements show the number, area and revenue of estates annually and periodically settled at full rates in the several districts of the Brahmaputra Valley (excluding town lands) at the end of each of the past two years. Details for each subdivision will be found in Statement No. VI in the Appendix:

Annually settled.

District.	1897-98.				1898-99.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	17,202	67,913	3·94	93,960	19,092	67,584	3·54	94,722	+ 762
Kamrup	104,199	200,813	1·93	4,34,438	99,614	170,002	1·71	3,88,097	− 46,341
Darrang	72,993	117,821	1·61	2,94,676	75,739	119,398	1·58	2,99,751	+ 5,075
Nowgong	83,572	128,516	1·53	2,93,993	90,912	133,437	1·47	3,15,681	+ 21,688
Sibsagar	89,481	126,381	1·41	3,07,414	94,938	136,412	1·44	3,28,949	+ 21,535
Lakhimpur	43,260	77,007	1·78	1,79,264	45,668	79,241	1·73	1,80,503	+ 1,239
Total	410,707	718,441	1·75	16,03,745	425,963	706,074	1·65	16,07,703	+ 3,958

Periodically settled.

District.	1897-98.				1898-99.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	1	192	192	319	1	192	192	319	...
Kamrup	77,058	277,071	3·59	7,61,007	72,139	260,442	3·61	7,24,473	− 36,534
Darrang	43,175	127,971	2·96	3,51,604	45,722	129,175	2·82	3,54,129	+ 2,525
Nowgong	42,032	84,021	1·99	2,45,456	39,887	78,377	1·96	2,28,962	− 16,494
Sibsagar	86,328	333,859	3·86	9,19,974	86,828	336,172	3·88	9,24,841	+ 4,867
Lakhimpur	20,840	88,066	4·22	2,34,754	25,622	99,704	3·89	2,64,190	+ 29,436
Total	269,434	911,180	3·38	25,13,114	270,199	904,062	3·34	24,96,914	−16,200

The total settled area at the close of the year was 1,610,136 acres, with a revenue of Rs. 41,04,617, against 1,629,621 acres, with a revenue of Rs. 41,16,859, at

the end of the preceding year. There was a decrease of 19,485 acres in the total area settled at full rates (excluding town lands), as detailed below:

District.	Acres.
Goalpara	... — 329
Kamrup	... — 47,440
Darrang	... + 2,791
Nowgong	... — 723
Sibsagar	... + 12,344
Lakhimpur	... + 13,872
Total	... — 19,485

The causes of increase and decrease in each district have been explained in paragraph 9 of this report. In Goalpara, the settlement of the year shows an increase in the number of estates and in revenue demand in spite of the decrease in area, due chiefly to the splitting up of estates in Sidli Duar according to the survey areas. The decrease in the number of estates in the area settled and in the revenue demand, both for annual and periodic estates, in the Kamrup district, is due to heavy relinquishments and the migration of a large number of raiyats of the Barpeta subdivision to other districts. In the Nowgong district, there was an increase under annually-settled estates, owing to the abatement of the *kalá-ázár* epidemic, and also partly to the revision of the district land records, and the success of the late rice crop in the preceding year. On the other hand, there was a decrease in decennially-settled estates, owing to heavy exclusions of land as *faut-ferar* in the areas affected by *kalá-ázár*. There was an increase in the number, area and revenue of both annually and periodically-settled estates in the Darrang, Sibsagar, and Lakhimpur districts, owing to extensions of cultivation. The increase under periodically-settled estates is also partly due to the conversion of annual leases into decennial. The transfer of five mauzas from the Naga Hills to Sibsagar district contributed in some degree to the increase shown in the latter district.

Nisf-khiraj estates, *i.e.*, estates settled at half rates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

33. Details as to the number, area and revenue of estates settled at half rates in each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley (exclusive of those in towns) at the end of each of the past two years, are given in Statement No. VII in the Appendix. The following is an abstract:

District.	Number.		Area.		Revenue.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.
Kamrup	1,976	1,966	151,361	150,681	1,51,501	1,51,547
Darrang	91	91	31,078	31,047	17,680	17,653
Nowgong	25	24	5,542	5,382	4,546	4,444
Sibsagar	344	344	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,414
Lakhimpur	29	30	1,286	1,290	1,797	1,801
Total	2,465	2,455	194,258	193,391	1,78,938	1,78,859

Compared with the previous year, there was a decrease in the total number, area and in the revenue of *nisf-khiraj* estates in 1898-99. Portions of some estates in the Kamrup district were resigned, washed away by rivers, or acquired for public purposes. This is the cause of decrease in the area in this district, but the loss of revenue thus caused has been more than compensated for by alteration of classification.

There was a decrease of 31 acres in area and Rs. 28 in revenue in the sadr subdivision of Tezpur. This was due to the inclusion of the *nisf-khiraj* area within the town limits of Tezpur in the previous year through mistake.

In Nowgong, there has been a decrease of one estate with an area of 160 acres and revenue Rs. 102, owing to the resignation of the Panbari *nisf-khiraj* estate in mauza Dhing. This estate has now been amalgamated with the mauza and assessed at full *khiraj* rates. There were no changes in this class of estates in the Sibsagar district. In the sadr subdivision of the Lakhimpur district, one *patta* covering an area of 4 acres, belonging to the Dinjoy Sastra, which by mistake was not shown in last year's statement, has been included in the year under report.

Special settlements in the Brahmaputra Valley.

34. Statement No. VIII in the Appendix shows the number, area and revenue of estates settled on special terms in the Brahmaputra Valley.

In the Goalpara district, there were no changes in the number, area, or revenue of estates. The Gauhati sadr subdivision shows an increase of 20 estates, covering an area of 12 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 83. There were also increases of Rs. 20 and Rs. 10 in the Jalukbari and Phatasil *khats*, respectively, due to extension of cultivation. The *khiraj khat* in the Barpeta subdivision shows an increase of 23 acres in area and Rs. 59 in revenue, owing to extension of cultivation. In the Tezpur subdivision, there was a decrease of Rs. 9 in the six-pie *la-khiraj* estates belonging to the Aunihati and Dakshinpat Gossains, due to falling-off in the area under cultivation. A decrease of Rs. 55 occurred in the Nowgong district in consequence of the falling-off in the area under cultivation. The Sibsagar sadr subdivision shows a decrease of one estate in the ten-twenties class, covering an area of 23 acres and a revenue of Rs. 64. The decrease is due to the death of a tenure-holder. The privileges which these tenure-holders enjoy are life-privileges only, and on their death the lands are assessed at full rates. The sadr subdivision of Dibrugarh shows an increase of Rs. 20, owing to extension of cultivation in the *khiraj khat*. Two leases granted to the Assam Railways and Trading Company for mining operations under special sanction of the Chief Commissioner, have been included in the statement. The revenue assessed on these leases has not, however, been shown, as they were issued after the supplementary settlement was completed.

Khiraj (revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying) estates in the towns of the Brahmaputra Valley.

35. Statement No. IX in the Appendix shows the number, area and revenue of *khiraj* (full revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying) estates in the several towns in the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of each of the past two years.

The decrease in the Dhubri town was due to resignation of lands washed away by the Brahmaputra and damaged by the earthquake. The decrease in Gauhati, Barpeta and Golaghat subdivisions is due to relinquishments, in Sibsagar to acquisition of land for public purposes, and in Dibrugarh to diluvion. Nowgong shows an increase of Rs. 149, mainly due to extensions of cultivation, especially in *char* lands.

Average area and revenue of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

36. The table below gives the average area and revenue of each class of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley for the past seven years. In this table estates in towns have been included under the heads under which they have been classified in Statement No. IX, *viz.*, *khiraj*, annual and periodic, and *nisf-khiraj*. Details of the changes which have taken place in the different classes of estates during the past four years will be found in Statement No. X in the Appendix:

Year.	*Khiraj*, annual.		*Khiraj*, periodic.		Special tenures.		*Nisf-khiraj*.		Waste land grants.	
	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.
1892-93	1 11 9	1·84	1 14 9	3·49	1 6 10	6·53	0 9 7	98·31	0 7 6	323·53
1893-94	2 3 3	2·00	2 13 1	3·61	3 4 5	3·09	0 13 10	82·51	0 7 8	318·53
1894-95	2 3 7	1·95	2 12 7	3·60	2 2 1	4·74	0 14 9	78·81	0 7 6	316·93
1895-96	2 4 1	1·86	2 12 11	3·48	1 2 8	16·16	0 14 9	78·67	0 7 2	328·41
1896-97	2 4 1	1·82	2 12 9	8·52	0 9 0	35·45	0 14 9	78·60	0 7 2	327·70
1897-98	2 3 10	1·74	2 12 5	3·36	1 2 4	34·61	0 14 9	78·54	0 7 8	324·01
1898-99	2 4 6	1·65	2 12 7	3·31	1 0 2	37·51	0 14 10	78·52	0 8 6	328·63

37. The following statement compares the area and revenue of the different classes of land—*basti*, *rupit* and *faringati*—assessed at full and half rates during the past two years. Estates settled at special rates, town lands and waste land grants are not included in this statement, but it includes lands held by tea-planters on ordinary terms :

Classification of land assessed at full and half rates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

—	*Basti.*	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*	Total.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.
1898-99	180,087	1,036,957	577,399	1,794,443	42,83,476
1897-98	177,425	1,021,000	616,371	1,814,796	42,95,797
Increase (+) or decrease (−).	+2,662	+15,957	−38,972	−20,353	−12,321

The following table gives the details of increase and decrease in different classes of land for each district :

District.	*Basti.*	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*
1	2	3	4
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	+ 267	+ 964	− 1,561
Kamrup	+ 570	− 173	− 48,517
Darrang	+ 274	+ 3,495	− 1,009
Nowgong	+ 459	+ 2,449	− 3,791
Sibsagar	+ 653	+ 5,458	+ 6,233
Lakhimpur	+ 439	+ 3,764	+ 9,673
Total	+ 2,662	+ 15,957	− 38,972

In the Eastern Duars there was an increase under *basti* and *rupit*, and a decrease under *faringati* due to alteration of classification.

In Kamrup, *rupit* and *faringati* show a decrease, while *basti* shows a small increase. The decrease is due to relinquishments and the small increase to alteration of classification. In the Darrang district, there was an increase under *basti* and *rupit* and a decrease under *faringati*. The increase under the two former heads is due chiefly to lands taken up by *ex*-tea-garden coolies and emigrants, and also to migration from Nowgong and extension of cultivation. The decrease under *faringati* is due to relinquishments. Nowgong shows an increase under *basti* and *rupit*, and a decrease under *faringati*. This result has been brought about by careful scrutiny and supervision of settlement work. In Sibsagar and Lakhimpur, there was an increase under all the heads due to extension of cultivation.

The following table shows the proportions of the three classes of ordinary cultivation, *viz.*, *basti*, *rupit* and *faringati*, in each district for the years 1884-85 and 1898-99:

District.	1884-85.			1898-99.		
	Basti, per cent.	*Rupit*, per cent.	*Faringati*, per cent.	*Basti*, per cent.	*Rupit*, per cent.	*Faringati*, per cent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	8·53	62·67	28·88	10·02	66·57	23·41
Kamrup	9·43	44·70	45·85	9·59	56·12	34·29
Darrang	8·30	68·23	23·46	10·04	69·59	20·36
Nowgong	6·63	35·19	58·17	10·48	53·39	36·20
Sibsagar	6·36	57·01	36·61	10·52	56·11	33·36
Lakhimpur	7·81	54·62	37·55	9·63	51·99	38·38
Total	7·98	51·02	40·99	10·03	57·78	32·17

The proportions in the division for the past five years are given below:

Year.	*Basti.*	*Rupit.*	*Faringati.*
1894-95	9·66	56·57	33·75
1895-96	9·66	56·86	33·46
1896-97	9·66	56·36	33·96
1897-98	9·77	56·26	33·97
1898-99	10·03	57·78	32·17

Relinquishments in the Brahmaputra Valley.

38. Details as to the resignation of estates and parts of estates settled annually or decennially in each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley (exclusive of town lands), are given in Statement No. XI in the Appendix. The resignations of 1897-98 affected the settlement of 1898-99. There signations shown in this statement (that is, of 1898-99) will affect the settlement of 1899-1900.

During the year under report, relinquishments occurred in 9·43 per cent. of the *khiraj* estates settled annually and decennially, against 16·18 per cent. in the preceding year. The proportion of resignation was 13·78 per cent. in 1896-97. In 1895-96 and 1894-95, it was 12·31 and 12·74 per cent., respectively. The area resigned during the year was 7·77 per cent. of the settled area, against 11·70 in 1897-98. The percentage of the four years previous to 1898-99 is as follows:

1897-98	11·70
1896-97	10·59
1895-96	9·74
1894-95	8·87

There was a decrease in the number of resignations during the year under report. Except Jorhat and North Lakhimpur, where there is an increase, all the subdivisions show a decrease. The decrease in the Eastern Duars is due to the good crops obtained by the raiyats, and also to the number of resignations having been unusually high during 1897-98, as compared with the previous years. The latter reason applies also to the Kamrup district. In Darrang and Nowgong, the decrease is attributed to favourable weather and good harvests. In Sibsagar and in the sadr subdivision of Dibrugarh the variations are small, and call for no special remarks. The increase in North Lakhimpur is attributed to the prevalence of cattle-disease during 1896-97 and 1897-98, which considerably reduced the number of animals available for cultivation.

The statement below shows conveniently the areas resigned in December 1896 and December 1897, and the resigned lands retaken and new lands taken up in 1897-98 and 1898-99:

District.	Resigned, etc., in		Resigned land retaken in		New land taken up in	
	December 1896.	December 1897.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara (Eastern Duars) ...	17,469	20,219	3,940	4,814	13,787	15,076
Kamrup	117,169	126,556	14,733	19,095	103,013	60,021
Darrang	23,535	20,596	3,602	4,435	24,625	18,952
Nowgong	86,691	51,820	10,889	6,666	56,139	44,431
Sibsagar	21,220	23,040	2,628	2,838	30,568	32,546
Lakhimpur	13,114	20,125	1,266	1,205	17,165	32,792
Total	279,198	262,356	37,058	39,053	245,297	203,818

Proportion of settled area.

39. Statement No. XII in the Appendix shows the settled and unsettled area of each subdivision in the Brahmaputra Valley. Including the permanently-settled area of the Goalpara district, the proportion borne by the settled area to the total area of the valley in 1898-99 was 30·06 per cent. The percentage of the total area settled, omitting permanently-settled estates for the past ten years, is given below:

1889-90	16·30
1890-91	16·50
1891-92	16 92
1892-93	17 22
1893-94	17·12
1894-95	17·19
1895-96	18·40
1896-97	18·40
1897-98	18·54
1898-99	18·67

SECTION VI.

REVISION OF SETTLEMENTS.

Jaintia settlement.

40. As noticed in paragraph 40 of the report for 1897-98, the resettlement of the Jaintia parganas was brought into effect from the 1st April 1898. The work of issuing revised *pattas* and correction of *taujis* was completed during the year under report.

Cachar settlement.

The report of the Settlement Officer, Cachar, containing his proposals as to the rates to be assessed in the resettlement of that district was received, and the rates, as provisionally approved by the Chief Commissioner, were published. A period of two months having been allowed for objections, the rates were finally sanctioned by the Government of India in January 1899. Rules for the resettlement of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates in the Sylhet district were sanctioned by the Government of India during the year.

Surveys by professional agency.

41. The survey operations undertaken by the Professional Survey Party No. 6 employed in the province during the season 1898-99, consisted of—

Surma Valley—

(1) Traverse survey of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates in Sylhet, with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency.

(2) Traverse and skeleton boundary survey of certain tea grants in Sylhet.

Brahmaputra Valley—

(3) Traverse survey of certain areas for topographical purposes.

(4) Traverse survey of certain areas with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency.

Details of the areas completed by the party under each of the heads are given below :

Surma Valley—Sylhet district —

Traverse survey of temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands with a view to cadastral survey ...	}	69·46 square miles.
Traverse and boundary survey of tea grants ...	}	

Brahmaputra Valley—

Traverse and topographical survey of areas omitted from cadastral survey—

	Sq. miles.
Kamrup	7·85
Darrang	78·95
Nowgong	237·29
Sibsagar	924·00
Total	1,248·09

Traverse with a view to cadastral survey by local agency—

Darrang	6·13
Sibsagar	8·00
Lakhimpur	35·00
Total	49·13
Total area traversed	1,366 68

Traverse survey by local agency.

In Sylhet a plane-table traverse of an area of 27·49 square miles of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates not traversed by the professional party, was carried out by local agency.

Cadastral survey by local agency.

42. Cadastral survey was carried out by local agency in the districts of (1) Kamrup, (2) Darrang, (3) Sibsagar, (4) Lakhimpur, on the basis of traverse plots furnished by the professional party, and (5) in Sylhet, partly on the basis of plots furnished by the professional party, and partly of those prepared by local agency :

(1) In Kamrup, an area of 33·85 square miles was surveyed cadastrally, and the survey resulted in an increase in cultivated area of 667 *bighas*, and in annual revenue of Rs. 541, while the cost incurred amounted to Rs. 134 only.

(2) An area of 6·16 square miles was surveyed cadastrally in the sadr subdivisions of the Darrang district. The result of the operation was an increase in cultivated area of 827 *bighas* and of Rs. 650 in the annual revenue. The cost amounted to Rs. 50 only.

(3) In Sibsagar, the area surveyed cadastrally amounted to 18·16 square miles. The survey resulted in an increase in cultivated area of 340 *bighas* and of Rs. 770 in the annual land revenue demand. The total cost amounted to Rs. 309.

(4) The area cadastrally surveyed in Lakhimpur amounted to 34·77 square miles. The result was an increase in cultivated area of 3,450 *bighas* and of Rs. 2,972 in the annual land revenue demand, while the cost incurred was only Rs. 591.

(5) The cadastral survey of an area of 48·90 square miles of temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands was carried out in Sylhet. This area, with the 193·94 square miles surveyed up to the close of season 1897-98, brings the total area surveyed by local agency in this district to 242·04 square miles.

A map illustrating for the whole province the areas cadastrally surveyed and the areas permanently settled is annexed.

Settlement of town lands.

43. As stated in paragraph 43 of last year's report, the Settlement Officer, who had been appointed for the resettlement of the towns of Dhubri and Tezpur, submitted his notes on the resettlement of those towns during the year under report. The rates proposed by the Settlement Officer were approved by the Chief Commissioner, with certain modifications. These rates were published, and a period of one month was allowed for the submission of objections and criticisms. The settlement of the Tezpur town has since been confirmed by the Chief Commissioner for a period of 30 years, commencing from 1st April 1899.

SECTION VII.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS OF WASTE LANDS.

Scope of the section.

44. This section deals only with waste lands taken up for special cultivation, either under the Settlement Rules now in force under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, or under rules previously in force for the settlement of such land.

Applications under Section 1 of the Settlement Rules.

45. At the beginning of the year, 146 applications under Section I of the Settlement Rules* were pending from previous years, and 83 new applications were received during the year, making a total of 229 cases for disposal, against 313 cases in the preceding year. The statement below compares the progress made in the disposal of these applications during the past two years:

	1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5
Applications rejected, withdrawn, and struck off...	67	23,038	47	11,852
Estates settled during the year	100	31,457	69	27,138
Applications pending at the close of the year ...	146	60,153	113	37,400
Total	313	114,648	229	76,390

* That is, applications for land at specially favourable rates, *viz.*, a 30-year lease, a rent-free term, and progressive rates, a premium being paid in the first instance.

One hundred and thirteen cases remained pending at the close of the year, against 146 in the previous year. These cases include applications for lands which had

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been advertised for sale before the end of the year. The pending applications are distributed as follows :

District.	Pending since					Instituted during the year 1898-99.	Total.
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cachar	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Sylhet	...	1	...	1	1	1	4
Goalpara	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Darrang	...	...	1	...	10	8	19
Nowgong	...	...	...	1	2	1	4
Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	16	28	44
Lakhimpur	...	...	...	3	9	26	38
Total	...	1	1	5	42	64	113

As compared with the preceding year, there was a decrease in the number of applications received. In the Brahmaputra Valley, which accounts for 82 out of the 83 applications registered, the decrease is ascribed to depression in the tea industry owing to unfavourable seasons, but the number of applications received was greater than in any year previous to 1896-97. In this valley, 112 applications were disposed of during the year, against 139 in the preceding year, and 25,504 acres of land were settled, against 23,657—on the whole, a satisfactory outturn of work.

As in the previous year, an extra private surveyor was employed in the Lakhimpur district in addition to the permanent staff, with a view to accelerate the disposal of these cases.

Total number of settlements under 30-year Lease Rules.

46. The following table gives particulars of the waste land grants settled under the 30-year Lease Rules during the past two years. It also shows the total number and area of grants in each district settled under these rules, as they stood at the close of the year under report :

District.	1897-98.		1898-99.		Altogether to the end of 1898-99, excluding leases resumed and cancelled.	
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	...	...	7	2,716	8	2,785
Sylhet	1	583	1	780	129	83,915*
Goalpara	1	1,568	...	...	2	1,928
Kamrup	5	1,942	1	467	22	5,861
Darrang	24	6,497	20	9,516	224	70,401
Nowgong	3	242	...	...	82	30,476
Sibsagar	24	7,585	20	6,202	246	72,331
Lakhimpur	18	5,823	25	9,319	160	61,787
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	...	...	...	...	3	1,176
Total	76	24,240	74	29,000	876	330,660

* Revised area has been given in the report for 1898-99 for some of the Jaintia grants, which explains the difference of 365 acres from the previous year's figures.

47. As in the previous year, there was no competition at the auction-sales of waste lands during the year under report, and the lands were sold at the upset price of Re. 1 per acre.

Auction price realised by the sale of leases.

48. In Cachar, one *jangalburi* lease, comprising an area of 1,052 acres, with a revenue demand of Rs. 789, was relinquished. In the Nowgong district, the resignation of three New Lease Rule grants was sanctioned during the year, but the resignation will take effect from 1899-1900.

Resignations and resumptions.

49. The total number of leases settled up to the close of the year under the 30-year Lease Rules was 876, as shown in paragraph 46 above. Of these, 711 have come under assessment (that is to say, the revenue-free term has expired), as detailed in the statement below :

Leases brought under assessment.

District.	Number of leases.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
			Rs.
Cachar	8	2,785	579
Sylhet	129	83,915	60,054
Goalpara	1	360	180
Kamrup	16	3,452	2,015
Darrang	168	51,987	29,383
Nowgong	79	30,234	27,828
Sibsagar	196	57,608	34,189
Lakhimpur	111	95,334	30,020
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	3	1,176	585
Total	711*	326,851	1,85,133

* Revised figure. The decrease, as compared with the previous year's number, is due to certain unassessed leases of the Brahmaputra Valley having been wrongly inserted in this column.

The revenue demand of these estates for the year shows an increase of Rs. 43,142 over that of the preceding year.

50. The following statement shows the demand and collections on account of timber on waste lands settled during the year under report :

Price of timber.

District.	Demand.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sylhet	400	...	400	...	...	...	...
Darrang	24,986	...	7,640	...	...	17,346	...
Nowgong	1,559	...	1,559	...	...	...	...
Sibsagar	16,091	3,169(*a*)	6,828	640	682(*b*)	8,798	2,312
Lakhimpur	14,650	...	9,837	...	...	4,813	...
Total	57,686	3,169	26,264	640	682(*b*)	30,957	2,312

(*a*) Revised figure.

(*b*) Rs.

Current	...	465
Arrear	...	217
Total	...	682

As compared with the previous year, both the current demand and the collections showed a decrease, while the balance outstanding at the end of the year shows a large increase over that of 1897-98. The outstanding balance, Rs. 17,346, against Darrang represents the amount due for timber in the disforested area of the Charduar reserve. The current collection of Rs. 1,559 shown against the Nowgong district represents advance collection on account of the current year. In the Lakhimpur district, the demand in the North Lakhimpur subdivision represents the realisation of the timber valuation on grants applied for in the previous year, and the decrease in the Dibrugarh subdivision, where the number of grants settled was greater than that in the previous year, is attributed partly to the non-receipt of the timber valuation reports from the Deputy Conservator of Forests, and partly to the low valuation of timber. The sum of Rs. 3,169 against Sibsagar represents an arrear in Jorhat, and is the balance of the previous year, which, through an oversight, was omitted from the last year's figures.

Settlement of waste lands for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules in Cachar.

51. In Cachar four applications were received during the year for land for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules, which, with the 10 applications pending at the beginning of the year, made 14 applications for disposal. Of these, one was struck off and 13 remained pending at the close of the year. No area was settled for cultivation of tea during the year 1898-99.

Waste land taken up in Sylhet under Section III of the Settlement Rules.

52. In Sylhet 5 applications were made under Section III of the Settlement Rules for land required for special cultivation, which, with the 40 applications pending from the previous year, made a total of 45 cases for disposal. No periodic lease was issued during the year; in 13 cases annual leases, covering an area of 764 acres and bearing a revenue of Rs. 1,150, were issued, and 4 cases were struck off, leaving 28 cases undisposed of at the close of the year. Out of these, one case awaits the decision of a dispute, and in one the area applied for being over 600 acres is being divided into separate blocks.

Waste land taken up in the Brahmaputra Valley under Section II of the Settlement Rules.

53. The following statement relates to land taken up in the Brahmaputra Valley districts under Section II of the Settlement Rules for special cultivation:

District.	1897-98.						1898-99.						Existing at the end of 1898-99.			
	Number of leases applied for.		Number of leases granted.				Number of leases applied for.		Number of leases granted.				Total number of leases.			
	Periodic.	Annual.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Periodic.	Annual.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Periodic.	Annual.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Rs.						Rs.				Rs.
Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	192	319
Kamrup	...	...	2	...	14	24	2	...	2	...	3	61	38	...	1,758	3,050
Darrang	4	...	11	2	140	258	4	...	8	1	67	132	175	14	11,370	23,549
Nowgong	2	5	2	5	213	404	1	17	1	17	32	57	59	46	3,583	6,754
Sibsagar	32	2	44	34	2,102	4,404	24	3	45	9	1,271	2,771	729	219	59,307	1,34,467
Lakhimpur... ...	18	...	50	9	1,224	11,103	16	...	118	9	2,982	6,786	507	73	31,383	66,721
Total	56	7	109	50	3,693	16,493	47	20	174	36	4,355	9,807	1,509	352	107,593	2,34,862

There was an increase of 4,355 acres in the area and of Rs. 9,807 in the revenue demand of this class of estates.

54. The following statement shows the number, area and revenue of grants under the Rules of 1838 :

Grants under the Rules of 1838 :

District.	1897-98.			1898-99.		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.			Rs.
Kamrup	2	31	67	2	31	67
Sibsagar	16	5,195	8,847	16	5,195	8,847
Total	18	5,226	8,914	18	5,226	8,914

There was no change in the area and revenue of these grants.

55. The statement below gives the details of the grants held under the Rules of 1854 :

Grants under the Rules of 1854.

District.	Number of grants.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
			Rs.
Cachar	23	25,926	7,291
Sylhet	3	3,029	852
Kamrup	3	920	259
Darrang	1	293	82
Nowgong	2	469	132
Sibsagar	2	726	204
Total	34	31,363	8,820

The area and revenue of these grants remained the same as in 1897-98.

56. The following table shows the Old Rule grants commuted to fee-simple, and the amount of purchase money realised and remaining to be realised on account of such grants in each district :

Commutation of Old Rule grants to fee-simple.

District.	Number of grants.	Area, in acres.	Government revenue at the time of commutation.	Price of commutation paid, including part payments for grants sold for arrears.	Price remaining to be paid.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs.	Rs.	
Cachar	67	136,207	6,660	4,66,681	...
Sylhet	1	2,340	...	7,924	...
Kamrup	20	12,527	80	43,430	...
Darrang	15	6,758	347	27,500	...
Nowgong	13	6,120	294	24,263	...
Sibsagar	111	93,767	2,467	3,41,568	...
Lakhimpur	41	30,230	1,229	1,23,610	...
Total	268	287,949	11,077	10,34,976	...

57. The statement below gives the particulars of fee-simple grants and the amount of purchase money realised on account of such grants in each district :

Fee-simple grants.

District.	Number of grants sold.	Area, in acres.	Price realised		Price remaining to be realised.
			Up to the close of 1897-98.	In 1898-99.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs.		
Cachar	23	9,587	60,150	...	...
Kamrup	17	4,456	19,712	...	...
Darrang	85	45,203	1,53,024	...	...
Nowgong	42	15,229	74,215	...	...
Sibsagar	51	30,877	3,27,292	...	...
Lakhimpur	102	87,107	3,65,033	...	...
Total	320	192,459	9,99,426	...	...

In the Lakhimpur district one grant, covering an area of 506 acres, was added to the number of fee-simple grants during the year under report.

58. The following statement gives particulars of all waste land grants taken up in the province under different tenures for the cultivation of tea during the past five years and of those existing at the end of the year under report :

Waste land taken up for tea-planting during the past five years and altogether up to the end of 1898-99.

Class of tenure.	Number and area of grants taken up in										Total on 1st April 1899.	
	1894-95.		1895-96.		1896-97.		1897-98.		1898-99.			
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Number.	Area, in acres.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I.—Thirty-year Lease Rules	32	8,913	25	18,529	37	8,421	76	24,240	74	29,000	876	330,660
II.—Leases under the ordinary Settlement Rules of Assam Proper ...	71	7,889	182	5,209	251	5,898	159	3,693	210	4,355	1,861	107,593
III.—Ordinary reclamation leases taken for tea-planting in Cachar and Sylhet	6	812	7	781	3	189	9	1,193	13	764	615	116,683
IV.—Leases under the modified *Ilam* Rules, Sylhet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	26,317
V.—Grants under Old Rules of 1838 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	5,226
VI.— Ditto ditto of 1854 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	31,363
VII.—Grants redeemed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	268	287,949
VIII.—Fee-simple grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320	192,459
Total	109	17,614	214	24,519	291	14,508	244	29,126	297	34,119	4,053	1,098,250

SECTION VIII.

WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

59. The only estate under the management of the Revenue authorities during the year was the attached estate of Maulvi Mohammed Ahiya, of which mention was made in the previous year's report. The survey of the estate, which has been under contemplation, could not be undertaken for want of funds.

The current demand of the estate amounted to Rs. 27,621, against Rs. 27,391 in the previous year, showing a net increase of Rs. 230 obtained by resettlement of certain fisheries. The arrear demand on 1st April 1898 was Rs. 28,558, to which a sum of Rs. 10 was added, thus bringing the corrected arrear demand to Rs. 28,568. The total collections amounted to Rs. 19,339 (current Rs. 12,873 and arrears Rs. 6,466), or 34·42 per cent. of the total demand, and Rs. 91, or ·16 per cent., was remitted during the year. As noted in previous report, many of the raiyats objected to pay rent according to the *jamabandis* (rent-rolls). Some of the raiyats even deny the title of the zamindar, and to this is attributable in great measure the unsatisfactory progress made with the realisation of the arrears. In addition to the actual collections on account of rent, a sum of Rs. 3,250 was collected as advance payment and miscellaneous receipts during the year. The debts of the estate outstanding on 1st April 1898 amounted to Rs. 68,260, to which Rs. 6,149 was added during the year as interest, making a total of Rs. 74,409. The total debts were reduced during the year by Rs. 9,724, or 13·07 per cent., of which Rs. 8,563 were paid by the estate, and Rs. 1,161 was remitted by the creditors, leaving a balance of Rs. 64,685 to be liquidated. After defraying all expenses on account of management, maintenance of the proprietors, Government revenue, etc., a balance of Rs. 4,137-7-3 was left at credit of the estate at the close of the year.

SECTION IX.

LOCAL RATES.

60. Local rates continue to be assessed under the Assam Local Rates Regulation on the different descriptions of landed property in the plains districts in the same manner as in previous years.

Assessment.

The total current demand of the year amounted to Rs. 6,65,078, against Rs. 6,44,908 in 1897-98, showing an increase of Rs. 20,170, or 3·03 per cent., which was shared by all the districts, except Kamrup. The increase in the landrevenue demand (3·73 per cent.) accounts for the increase under local rates, which vary proportionately with the land revenue. The table below shows the demand assessed for the year under review on estates of different descriptions in each district:

District.	Permanently-settled estates.	Temporarily-settled estates.	Waste land grants.	Revenue-free estates.	Total.	Increase + or decrease −, as compared with the demand for 1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	....	21,798	9,085	131	31,014	+ 148
Sylhet	1,97,644	27,232	4,885	4,533	2,34,291	+ 13,204
Goalpara	60,277	6,206	11	957	67,451	+ 5,651
Kamrup	...	96,706	958	6,158	1,03,822	− 5,118
Darrang	...	44,151	5,537	1,123	50,811	+ 976
Nowgong	...	35,207	3,048	388	38,643	+ 611
Sibsagar	...	79,785	14,994	2,305	97,084	+ 1,882
Lakhimpur	...	29,653	11,749	557	41,959	+ 2,816
Total	2,57,921	3,40,738	50,267	16,152	6,65,078	+ 20,170

There was a decrease in the amount realised from revenue-free estates in the districts of Cachar, Kamrup, Darrang, and Sibsagar. In Darrang the decrease was due to a reduction in the cultivated area of a *la-khiraj* estate owing to the damage done to it by floods, and in Kamrup to revision of assessment, after the earthquake. There was also a decrease in Kamrup and Nowgong in the local rates assessed on fee-simple grants, due in the former district to a decrease in the area under cultivation and to a revision of assessment.

The rule regarding the annual and quinquennial revision of the assessment of local rates on *la-khiraj* and *fee-simple* estates in the Brahmaputra Valley was followed in the Sibsagar district during the year under report.

Demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

61. The following statement shows the demand (current and arrear), collections, remissions, and balances on account of local rates in each district for the last two years:

District.	Demands.				Collections.				Remissions.		Balances.			
	1897-98.		1898-99.		1897-98.		1898-99.				1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	30,866	855	31,014	724	30,105	854	30,170	719	...	...	761	1	844	5
Sylhet	2,21,090	708	2,34,294	9,989	2,18,417	524	2,27,653	9,256	32	15(*a*)	2,671	154	6,631	728
Goalpara	61,800	11	67,451	34	61,795	10	66,964	34	1	156(*b*)	5	...	331	...
Kamrup	1,08,940	3,340	1,03,822	3,766	1,06,162	2,326	93,556	1,808	90	123 (*c*)	2,778	924	10,264	1,837
Darrang	49,835	938	50,811	1,989	47,932	787	48,654(*d*)	1,781	38	65 (*e*)	1,901	115	2,157	143
Nowgong	38,032	5,016	38,643	8,959	32,184	1,924	34,905	5,200	7	37(*f*)	5,848	3,085	3,721	3,739
Sibsagar	95,202	9,769	97,084	7,283	89,925	7,675	92,650(*g*)	4,295	123	136(*h*)	5,277	1,971	4,434	2,852
Lakhimpur ...	39,143	2,794	41,959	1,884	37,551	2,619	40,819	1,586	1	55 (*i*)	1,592	174	1,096	287
Total	6,44,908	23,431	6,65,078	34,628	6,24,071	16,719	6,35,371	24,679	292	587(*j*)	20,833	6,424	29,478	9,591

(*a*) Rs.
- Current 10
- Arrear 5
- Total 15

(*b*) Current.

(*c*) Rs.
- Current 2
- Arrear 121
- Total 123

(*d*) Includes Rs. 48 short-collected for 1898-99 on account of remissions paid in 1897-98.

(*e*) Arrear.

(*f*) Rs.
- Current 17
- Arrear 20
- Total 37

(*g*) Exclusive of Rs. 109 realised in excess and Rs. 6 refunded.

(*h*) Arrear.

(*i*) Rs.
- Current 44
- Arrear 11
- Total 55

(*j*) Rs.
- Current 229
- Arrear 358
- Total 587

The balance outstanding on the 31st March 1898 was Rs. 27,257. Subsequent revisions raised the arrear demand to Rs. 34,628. The total demand of the year, including arrears, amounted to Rs. 6,99,706, of which a sum of Rs. 6,60,050 (Rs. 6,35,371 current and Rs. 24,679 arrears), or 94·33 per cent., was collected, Rs. 587, or ·08 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 39,069, or 5·58 per cent., remained unrealised at the end of the year. Of the total outstanding balance, Rs. 13,186 have since been realised, Rs. 179 have been remitted, Rs. 163 have been found to be irrecoverable, and the balance is in course of realisation.

SECTION X.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rules and Regulations.

62. During the year under report, rules under section 29 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation for the resettlement of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates in Sylhet, were issued, and the following rules, previously issued under the said Regulation, were amended:

(1) Rules 25A and 82 of the Settlement Rules issued under sections 12 and 29 of the Regulation.

(2) Rules for the recovery of arrears under Chapter V of the Regulation.

Acquisition of land for public purposes.

63. The statement below shows the area of, and the compensation paid for land taken up for public purposes during 1898-99:

District.	Area acquired. A.	r.	p.	yds.	Compensation paid. Rs.	a.	p.
Cachar	75	2	18	0	1,830	4	3
Sylhet	168	0	26	0	25,019	0	0
Goalpara	4	2	19	6	27	12	0
Kamrup	2	3	26	0	55	10	0
Nowgong	27	0	27	5¾	677	0	0
Sibsagar	55	1	35	5¾	2,093	0	0
Lakhimpur	3	3	14	12	2,360	11	4
Total	337	3	5	29½	32,063	5	7

Statement No. XVIII in the Appendix specifies the purposes for which land was acquired in the different districts.

In Cachar, 51 odd acres were taken up for the Manacherra-Kalacherra road at a cost of Rs. 4,801. This amount could not, however, be paid during the year.

In Sylhet, 11 acres were acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway at a cost of Rs. 2,601. Eighty-two acres for roads were also acquired at an aggregate cost of Rs. 7,993. In the town of Sylhet, 23 acres of land were acquired for official residences and for the public offices at a total cost of Rs. 12,239. In Nowgong and Sibsagar land was acquired for the Assam-Bengal Railway, and 3·84 acres of land in the Dibrugarh town for the construction of new lines for the Military Police at a cost of acquisition of this area amounted to Rs. 2,360.

Partition of estates.

64. During the year under report, no partition was effected in Cachar. In Sylhet 25 cases were pending from the preceding year, and 17 cases were instituted during the year; of these, 23 were disposed of, leaving 19 cases pending on 31st March 1899.

The following table shows the number of partition cases instituted and disposed of during the year in the several districts of the Brahmaputra Valley:

District.	Pending on 31st March 1898.	Instituted during 1898-99.	Disposed of during 1898 99.	Balance on 31st March 1899.
1	2	3	4	5
Goalpara	...	...	...	...
Kamrup	62	142	79	125
Darrang	1	8	8	1
Nowgong	2	1	3	...
Sibsagar	129	123	113	139
Lakhimpur	5	27	26	6
Total	199	301	229	271

Of the 229 cases disposed of, 222 were for perfect and 7 for imperfect partitions.

The following figures show the aggregate number of partition cases disposed of in the districts of this divisionfor each of the past five years :

1894-95	141
1895-96	222
1896-97	185
1897-98	187
1898-99	229

Sale of proprietary rights in Government estates.

65. No sales of proprietary rights in Government estates took place during the year.

Registration of estates and mutation cases.

66. The statement below shows the number of mutation cases instituted during the year, as compared with the preceding year :

District.	Number of mutation cases instituted in		Increase.	Decrease.
	1897-98	1898-99.		
1	2	3	4	5
Cachar	5,574	4,546	...	1,028
Sylhet	4,902	6,873	1,971	...
Goalpara	1	2	1	...
Kamrup	3,064	4,908	1,844	...
Darrang	1,594	1,791	197	...
Nowgong	801	1,967	1,166	...
Sibsagar	3,908	3,456	...	452
Lakhimpur	855	1,251	396	...
Total	20,699	24,794	5,575	1,480
Net Increase	...	..	+4,095	

As in the preceding year, there was again a decrease in the number of cases instituted during the year in Cachar, due to the approaching completion of the re-settlement of the district. There was an increase in Sylhet, the bulk of which occurred in Jaintia parganas, and is accounted for by the fact that the people having now received their final *pattas* are coming forward to register the transfers made since the cadastral survey of the parganas.

In the Brahmaputra Valley the number of mutation cases instituted was 13,375, against 10,222 in the preceding year, the increase being due to the stricter enforcement of the compulsory provisions of the law, and also to the increased facilities afforded for effecting mutation by the system lately introduced, under which tahsildars and mauzadars have been authorised to receive and entertain applications for registration and mutation within their jurisdictions. The number of mutations is still, however, not so great as it should be in proportion to the number of estates, and this

is especially the case in the Darrang district and in the Golaghat subdivision, where there was a small decrease in mutations during the year. The number of mutation cases disposed of was 12,453, against 10,945 in the preceding year.

The following statement shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of during the year:

District.	Pending on 1st April 1898.	Instituted during 1898-99.	Total for disposal.	Disposed of during 1898-99.	Pending on 31st March 1899.	Number of estates subject to mutation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	6,931*	4,546	11,477	3,586	7,891	12,260
Sylhet	2,370	6,873	9,243	8,298	945	90,464
Goalpara	4	2	6	. 2	4	90
Kamrup	1,247	4,908	6,155	4,234	1,921	75,490
Darrang	236	1,791	2,027	1,665	362	46,143
Nowgong	207	1,967	2,174	1,842	332	40,603
Sibsagar	930	3,456	4,386	3,565	821	89,004
Lakhimpur	114	1,251	1,365	1,145	220	26,748
Total	12,039	24,794	36,833	24,337	12,496	380,802

*Revised figure.

The statement below shows the proportion borne in each of the five upper districts of the Assam Valley by the number of mutation cases instituted to the total number of estates subject to mutation (*i.e.*, estates of proprietors and landholders) during the past two years:

District.	1897-98. Per cent.	1898-99. Per cent.
Kamrup	3·82	6·50
Darrang	3·66	3·88
Nowgong	1·89	4·84
Sibsagar	4·42	3·88
Lakhimpur	3·95	4·68

During the year under report, the percentage of applications for mutation was highest in the Gauhati subdivision (5·96) and lowest in the Golaghat subdivision (2·89).

Registration of tenures in Sylhet.

67. Thirty-two tenures, comprising an area of 373 acres, were registered during the year under section 55 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, against 21 tenures in 1897-98.

Tahsils in the Brahmaputra Valley.

68. No new tahsil was opened during the year in any district. The table below shows the settled area, land revenue demand, and population of tahsils in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley at the close of the year:

District.	Settled area, in acres.	Land revenue.	Local rates.	Total revenue.	Population.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Goalpara	25,389·00	33,688	2,158	35,846	25,746
Kamrup	459,533·62	11,19,935	76,791	11,96,726	569,885
Darrang	172,493·00	4,68,875	29,358	4,98,233	216,451
Nowgong	82,173·00	2,35,596	14,770	2,50,366	132,256
Sibsagar	227,747·00	6,30,749	39,723	6,70,472	185,806
Lakhimpur	41,588·00	1,18,501	7,442	1,25,943	58,735
Total	1,008,923·62	26,07,344	1,70,242	27,77,586	1,188,870

69. During the year under report, a sum of Rs. 534 was advanced in the district of Sylhet under Act XII of 1884. Adding the sum of Rs. 2,482 advanced in 1897-98, the total sum advanced in this district amounts to Rs. 3,016, of which Rs. 930 was repayable during the year. Of this, Rs. 635 was realised and the balance, Rs. 295, is in course of recovery.

Agricultural advances and recoveries.

In Cachar, a sum of Rs. 600 was advanced to agriculturists in the Hailakandi subdivision under the provisions of the Act. No amount fell due for repayment during the year in that district. There were no advances or recoveries under this head during the year in any of the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley.

In the Garo Hills district, a sum of Rs. 401 was advanced during the year. The outstanding balance on the 1st April 1898 was Rs. 501, bringing the total amount outstanding as advances at the beginning of 1898-99 to Rs. 902. Of this, Rs. 150 was realised, and a sum of Rs. 15 was also realised as interest. The balance outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 752.

70. The amount of process-fees realised in the province during the year was Rs. 92,576, against Rs. 73,528 in the preceding year. As in the previous year, the bulk of the increase occurred in the Surma Valley, but the districts of Kamrup, Darrang, and Lakhimpur also contributed towards it. In the Brahmaputra Valley, the receipts on account of process-fees realised, excluding those realised at tahsils, did not cover the cost of establishment in several subdivisions, but taking into account the result of the working of process-serving in tahsils, the receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 38,767, and the expenditure to Rs. 21,462, leaving a surplus of Rs. 17,305.

Process-fees.

By order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. J. MONAHAN,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Shillong,

The 16th December 1899.

STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT No. I.

Showing the Rainfall of Assam for the four years ending 1898-99 *and the comparative averge of five years ending* 1896-97, 1897-98, *and* 1898-99.

No. of station.	District or subdivisional rain-gauge station.	Average of five years ending 1896-97.	Average of five years ending 1897-98.	Average of five years ending 1898-99.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
1	Silchar	142·27	131·10	117·11	133·38	98·37	105·72	81·07
2	Hailakandi	122·56	114·44	107·15	110·15	95·86	101·44	96·99
3	Haflong	64·08	70·93	72·43	66·53	61·96	96·45	70·81
4	Karimganj	161·41	148·02	137·09	148·33	124·48	120·02	118·13
5	South Sylhet	107·33	104·64	98·33	114·66	77·03	113·77	82·04
6	North „	167·40	156·47	140·54	141·46	128·63	143·55	112·59
7	Habiganj	99·26	96·53	90·13	99·77	89·48	87·77	83·38
8	Sunamganj*	222·18	191·00	184·87	200·07	153·07	164·48	194·39
9	Dhubri	97·93	93·84	94·65	116·59	78·13	102·95	93·72
10	Goalpara	87·60	84·65	85·50	86·91	69·79	90·40	90·45
11	Barpeta	96·47	97·25	98·35	97·78	81·50	104·71	89·21
12	Gauhati	65·41	63·84	68·33	64·22	70·85	61·19	72·32
13	Mangaldai	62·91	66·27	68·09	48·23	50·02	92·09	74·32
14	Tezpur	67·79	68·04	69·45	55·70	61·57	66·48	77·32
15	Nowgong	66·45	62·39	62·70	62·79	58·81	55·49	66·56
16	Golaghat	86·36	85·71	89·37	64·53	100·04	102·40	89·66
17	Jorhat	76·26	79·63	80·09	67·47	81·99	92·88	77·72
18	Sibsagar	97·92	99·06	102·05	113·53	92·82	105·72	97·03
19	North Lakhimpur ...	132·86	129·82	135·46	118·44	118·86	138·80	135·35
20	Dibrugarh	114·85	107·99	118·69	111·94	101·58	103·95	145·93
21	Mokokchang	98·02	92·44	94·81	93·03	91·74	81·52	105·43
22	Kohima	77·00	74·02	71·52	76·45	61·12	58·37	74·88
23	Jowai	132·75	133·13	123·83	153·44	80·26	142·32	125·26
24	Shillong†	76·88	77·76	73·23	89·39	54·17	84·96	68·65
25	Cherrapunji‡	408·92	399·39	407·95	370·29	308·03	457·45	524·52
26	Tura	123·72	119·49	118·47	109·00	114·75	128·01	129·78
27	Aijal	...	...	...	88·19	70·69	74·76	66·77

* Rainfall not recorded from the 13th June to 10th July 1897 in consequence of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897.

† Rainfall not recorded from the 13th to 26th June 1897 in consequence of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897.

‡ Rainfall not recorded from the 13th to 29th June 1897 in consequence of the earthquake of the 12th June 1897.

STATEMENT No. IIA.

District Crop Statement of the several districts in the Brahmaputra Valley for the year 1898-99.

District.	Cereals and pulses.									Oil-seeds.			Condiments and spices.	Sugar.	Fibres.			Dyes.		Drugs and narcotics.			Fodder crops.	*Basti* and garden crops not shown in the preceding columns.	Miscellaneous crops.		Total crops (including *basti*).	Total double-cropped area.	Net area cropped during the year.	Fallow.
	Rice-seedlings.	*Ahu* (early) rice.	*Sali* (late) rice.	*Bao* (late) rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.	Gram.	Other food-grains, including pulses.	Mustard.	Linseed.	*Til*.		Sugarcane.	Cotton.	Jute.	Other fibres.	Indigo.	Other dyes.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.			Food.	Non-food.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Goalpara ...	1,064	14,034	41,777	1,490	...	...	27	7	1,530	7,740	...	78	...	55	24	287	69	...	1	...	465	215	675	5,016	345	...	74,899	8,578	66,321	3,880
Kamrup ...	12,665	134,630	210,321	86,601	9	1	4	145	16,089	47,919	2	1,186	58	3,047	27	261	1,001	2	202	...	4,196	584	533	47,716	4,496	4,387	576,082	75,076	501,006	139,479
Darrang ...	7,078	37,271	153,917	6,219	2	7	27	2	11,918	9,331	...	47	13	1,430	1	38	107	...	10	...	38,773	117	71	29,464	1,146	3,013	300,003	13,505	286,498	128,108
Newgong ...	1,962	47,144	78,517	33,839	1	35	310	31	16,959	37,130	...	2,273	16	1,879	1,928	17	66	4	...	...	12,871	149	25	22,956	708	1,961	260,781	32,444	228,337	61,246
Sibsagar ...	16,106	22,161	268,650	2,159	1	6	77	5	15,645	18,782	1	11	16	6,215	14	38	124	...	1	...	75,945	229	452	45,174	8,581	23,665	498,058	23,729	474,329	245,709
Lakhimpur ...	7,678	22,987	90,305	1,784	3	2	37	1	4,505	4,642	...	7	...	2,464	5	7	...	...	4	...	59,694	33	34	16,468	710	4,618	215,988	5,333	210,655	161,077
Total	46,553	278,227	843,487	132,098	16	51	482	191	66,646	125,544	3	3,602	103	15,090	1,999	648	1,367	6	218	...	191,944	1,327	1,791	166,794	9,986	37,644	1,925,811	158,665	1,767,146	733,493

STATEMENT No. 113.

Cadastral Crop Statement of surveyed districts in the Province of Assam for the year 1898-99.

District.	Cereals and pulses.									Oil-seeds.			Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Fibres.			Dyes.		Drugs and narcotics.			Fodder crops.	*Basti* and garden crops not shown in the preceding columns.	Miscellaneous crops.		Total crops (including *basti*).	Total double-cropped area.	Net area cropped during the year.	*Khiraj* fallow.	*Nij* and *lakhiraj* and grants fallow.	Government waste.	Grand total of village.
	Rice-seedlings.	*Aus* or *ahu* (early) rice.	*Sail* or *sali* (late) rice.	*Aman* or *bao* (late) rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.	Gram.	Other food-grains, including pulses.	Mustard.	Linseed.	*Til.*			Cotton.	Jute.	Other fibres.	Indigo.	Other dyes.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.			Food.	Non-food.							
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Cachar	9,168	34,316	121,580	12,020	7	24	89	88	5,532	7,162	239	591	1,308	2,640	29	221	59	...	...	37	61,514	124	...	21,941	873	8,006	287,568	31,573	255,995	206,755	134,095	65,068	661,913
Sylhet { *Pratabgarh*	538	6,854	6,094	268	...	2	4	5	366	508	49	3	28	1,396	...	...	7	...	...	...	15,050	7	3	2,116	71	192	33,561	2,916	30,645	6,677	25,137	14,123	76,583
Sylhet { *Ilam* estates	1,084	2,521	8,576	13,759	...	...	3	6	29	495	1,121	20	59	243	...	80	...	...	...	...	10,350	11	1,012	2,066	242	3,534	44,150	1,042	43,108	57,036	...	23,036	123,180
Sylhet { Jaintia ...	1,859	19,906	30,386	58,429	...	...	...	...	206	916	2,172	41	153	3	...	4	70	...	...	...	4,281	15	3,134	15,893	588	3,178	141,729	17,853	123,876	79,848	7,833	98,369	309,930
Goalpara	974	7,287	29,813	824	...	...	1	7	964	4,339	...	45	...	54	1	157	2	...	...	...	...	170	...	3,442	329	...	48,409	5,190	43,219	2,699	...	134,794	180,712
Kamrup	11,655	124,729	191,003	85,189	4	1	4	145	15,360	41,329	2	1,090	58	2,993	14	342	728	2	188	...	785	538	522	45,119	4,186	4,154	530,040	68,003	462,037	32,913	79,050	685,036	1,259,076
Darrang	6,596	33,678	134,300	5,296	2	6	12	2	10,521	4,914	...	37	11	1,277	1	85	105	...	10	...	6,526	105	9	25,288	757	2,425	231,903	10,088	221,815	11,860	30,709	361,375	625,759
Nowgong	1,942	37,659	73,397	33,569	1	36	16	31	16,693	33,413	...	1,142	16	1,780	2	17	66	...	...	...	5,861	146	25	21,162	704	1,948	229,636	31,469	198,157	16,105	13,535	483,164	710,961
Sibsagar	15,938	15,578	263,190	1,716	1	6	75	4	14,020	13,143	...	11	15	6,079	11	38	124	...	1	...	77,427	224	452	44,556	2,516	23,286	480,411	19,143	461,268	56,892	122,489	449,424	1,090,073
Lakhimpur ...	5,328	4,040	58,522	1,325	1	2	25	...	3,023	781	...	4	...	315	...	3	1,321	...	...	...	16,011	30	20	10,356	323	1,213	102,643	3,292	99,351	9,728	15,703	67,157	191,939
Total	55,082	286,567	919,361	212,395	16	77	229	288	66,714	1,07,000	3,583	2,984	1,648	16,780	58	727	2,482	2	199	37	197,805	1,370	5,177	191,939	10,589	46,931	2,130,040	190,561	1,939,471	480,513	428,596	2,381,545	5,230,185

STATEMENT No. III.

Showing the Average Prices of "Matikalai" (Phaseolus radiatus), Mustard, and Raw Sugar in the Brahmaputra Valley during the past two years.

Station.	*Phaseolus radiatus* (*matikalai*), per maund.		Mustard, per maund.		Raw Sugar, per maund.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Dhubri	3 12 0	2 0 0	4 8 0	3 0 0	6 8 0	5 0 0
Goalpara	3 14 0	2 7 0	3 13 0	3 4 0	5 14 0	6 1 0
Barpeta	4 0 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	2 15 0	6 8 0	6 10 0
Gauhati	3 15 0	3 1 6	4 2 0	3 5 5	6 6 0	7 2 0
Mangaldai	3 12 0	5 0 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	10 0 0	12 0 0
Tezpur	4 10 0	4 0 0	3 14 0	3 8 0	8 0 0	8 0 0
Nowgong	3 15 0	2 15 8	3 10 9	3 1 2	6 15 8	8 0 0
Golaghat	4 14 0	4 3 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	6 0 0	6 6 0
Jorhat	4 10 0	2 12 0	3 4 0	3 1 0	10 0 0	6 8 0
Sibsagar	4 10 0	3 7 0	3 10 0	3 5 0	6 10 0	7 7 0
North Lakhimpur	5 0 0	3 12 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0
Dibrugarh	4 5 2	2 4 3	3 12 0	2 5 3	5 12 0	4 2 0

STATEMENT No. IV.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Ordinary Land Revenue, including Malikana of Estates on the Revenue Roll during the year 1898-99.

District.	Number of estates.	Demands.			Collections.			Remissions.	Net balances.			Distribution of balances.		Percentage.					Payment in advance on account of the ensuing year.
		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Doubtful and irrecoverable.	In process of recovery.	Collections (column 8) on demand (column 5).	Remissions (column 9) on demand (column 5).	Total uncollected balances (column 12) on demand (column 5).	Doubtful and irrecoverable balances (column 13) on demand (column 5).	Recoverable balances (column 14) on demand (column 5).	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.						Rs.
Cachar	12,031	3,58,877	14,724	3,73,601	3,41,728	14,453	3,56,181	...	17,149	271	17,420	...	17,420	95·34	...	4·66	...	4·66	1,077
Sylhet ... { Temporarily settled	47,586	5,31,029	94,235	6,25,264	4,50,544	80,624	5,31,168	634(a)	80,394	13,068	93,462	325	93,137	84·95	00·10	14·95	00·05	14·90	10,456
{ Permanently settled	42,891	3,66,041	228	3,66,269	3,64,072	212	3,64,284	...	1,969	16	1,985	...	1,985	99·46	...	00·54	...	00·54	48,779
Total	97,477	8,97,070	94,463	9,91,533	8,14,616	80,836	8,95,452	634(a)	88,363	13,084	95,447	325	95,122	90·31	00·06	9·63	00·03	9·59	59,235
Goalpara ... { Temporarily settled	19,390	97,143	398	97,541	97,131	390	97,521	8(b)	12	...	12	...	12	99·98	0·008	0·01	...	0·01	18
{ Permanently settled	19	11,411	...	11,411	11,411	...	11,411	...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
Total	19,409	1,08,554	398	1,08,952	1,08,542	390	1,08,932	b)	12	...	12	...	12	99·98	0·008	0·01	...	0·01	18
Kamrup	175,067	12,77,431	25,138	13,02,569	12,70,578	20,296	12,50,874	1,893(c)	46,816	2,981	49,797	1,809	47,898	96·03	0·15	3·82	0·15	3·67	616
Darrang	122,258	7,02,940	28,028	7,30,968	6,66,644	24,493	6,91,137	1,086(d)	36,296	2,449	38,745	128	38,617	94·55	0·15	5·30	0·02	5·28	...
Nowgong	131,671	5,81,661	1,42,378	7,23,979	5,08,554	73,195	5,81,749	3,007(e)	72,779	66,444	1,39,223	8,091	1,31,132	80·35	0·42	19·23	1·12	18·11	...
Sibsagar	181,040	13,13,316	1,28,747	14,42,063	12,52,516	1,10,896	13,63,412	2,174(f)	60,800	15,677	76,477	...	76,477	94·55	0·15	5·30	...	5·30	168
Lakhimpur	72,273	4,97,561	43,509	5,41,070	4,68,877	38,396	5,07,273	911(g)	27,972	4,914	32,886	...	32,886	93·75	0·17	6·08	...	6·08	72
Naga Hills	1	10	10	20	10	10	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	1,740	8,597	2,566	11,163	8,550	2,566	11,116	...	47	...	47	...	47	99·58	...	00·42	...	...	24
Garo Hills { Temporarily settled	5,627	22,130	3,484	25,614	19,186	2,272	21,458	408(h)	2,944	714	3,658	...	3,658	83·77	1·94	14·28	...	14·28	...
{ Permanently settled	1	12	...	12	12	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
Total	5,628	22,142	3,484	25,626	19,198	2,272	21,470	408(h)	2,944	714	3,658	...	3,658	83·78	1·94	14·27	...	14·28	...
Total temporarily settled ...	771,684	53,90,635	4,83,217	58,73,852	50,44,318	3,67,501	54,11,909	10,216(i)	3,45,209	1,06,518	4,51,727	10,443	4,41,284	92·14	0·17	7·69	0·18	7·51	12,431
Total permanently settled ...	49,911	3,77,464	228	3,77,692	3,75,495	212	3,75,707	...	1,969	16	1,985	...	1,985	99·47	...	0·52	...	0·52	48,779
Grand total	821,595	57,68,099	4,83,445	62,51,544	54,19,813	3,67,803	57,87,616	10,216(i)	3,47,178	1,06,534	4,53,712	10,443	4,43,269	92·58	0·16	7·26	0·17	7·09	61,210

		Rs.
(a)	Current ...	91
	Arrear ...	543
	Total ...	634

(b) Arrear.

		Rs.
(c)	Current ...	37
	Arrear ...	1,861
	Ttoal ...	1,898

(d) Arrear.

		Rs.
(e)	Current ...	268
	Arrear ...	2,739
	Total ...	3,007

(f) Arrear.

		Rs.
(g)	Current ...	712
	Arrear ...	199
	Total ...	911

(h) Arrear.

		Rs.
(i)	Current ...	1,108
	Arrear ...	9,108
	Total ...	10,216

STATEMENT No. V.

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Miscellaneous Land Revenue during the year 1898-99.

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Cachar.								Sylhet.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future arrear.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	1		2		3	4		5	6		7		8	9		10
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	R s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	700	...	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	10,200	1,300	4,500	1,300	...	5,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	7,340	349	7,093	349	...	247	...	1,272	56,003	9,635	46,446	6,937	2,619(*a*)	9,557	79	11,640
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,170	406	1,645	382	4(*a*)	525	20	197
5. House-tax	7,890	12	7,844	12	...	46	...	...	12	4	12	...	4(*a*)	...	...	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	31	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land-revenue ...	881	...	881	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)...	320	...	320	...	...	...	...	...	1,240	...	1,240	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	1,314	50	1,314	50	...	...	...	...	641	...	641	...	...	...	...	...
Total	28,676	1,711	22,683	1,711	...	5,993	...	1,272	62,066	10,045	51,984	7,319	2,627(*a*)	10,082	99	11,817
Total (both current and arrear)	30,387		24,394		...	5,993		...	72,111		59,303		2,627(*a*)	10,181		...
Percentage	...		80·28		...	19·72		...	...		82·24		3·64	14·12		...

(*a*) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Goalpara.								Kamrup.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	11		12		13	14		15	16		17		18	19		20
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	850	...	850	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	900	...	800	...	...	100	...	...
3. Fisheries	1,849	1	1,849	1	...	...	...	258	9,528	1,927	9,528	1,422	359(*a*)	...	146	3,962
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,214	98	1,094	64	30(*a*)	120	4	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	632	...	632	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	36	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	870	...	870	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	85	...	85	...	...	...	...	...	907	...	907	...	...	...	...	...
Total	1,934	1	1,934	1	...	...	...	258	14,937	2,025	14,717	1,486	389(*a*)	220	150	3,962
Total (both current and arrear)	1,935		1,935		...	...		...	16,962		16,203		385(*a*)	370		...
Percentage	...		100·00		...	...		...	...		95·53		2·29	2·18		...

(*a*) Arrear

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Darrang.								Nowgong.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	21		22		23	24		25	26		27		28	29		30
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	1,630	485	1,482	485	...	148	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	3,500	400	3,500	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	8,055	3,180	8,055	2,440	740 (*a*)	...	...	1,876	10,923	316	10,562	316	...	361	...	2,406
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,503	474	8,647	474	...	856	...	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue ...	8,929	...	8,929	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)...	1,730	...	1,730	...	...	...	...	...	373	...	373	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Landland Revenue Regulation).	80	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other Miscellaneous items not specified above	1,415	...	1,415	...	...	...	...	...	225	...	225	...	...	...	...	...
Total	25,339	4,065	25,191	3,325	740 (*a*)	148	...	1,876	21,029	790	19,812	790	...	1,217	...	2,406
Total (both current and arrear)	29,404		28,516		740 (*a*)	148		...	21,819		20,602		...	1,217		...
Percentage	...		96·98		2·52	0·50		...	...		94·42		...	5·58		...

(*a*) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Sibsagar.								Lakhimpur.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	31		32		33	34		35	36		37		38	39		40
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	500	...	500	...	...	...	...	...	5,570	...	5,330	...	...	240	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	500	...	500	...	...	...	...	100	6,400	...	6,400	...	...	...	...	500
3. Fisheries	35,625	175	35,463	175	...	162	...	4,509	6,275	...	6,275	...	...	...	...	333
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,760	52	6,760	52	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	3,604*	...	3,224	...	...	380	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	247	...	247	...	...	...	...	...	36,698	...	36,698	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue	6,201	...	6,201	...	...	...	...	...	9,036	...	9,036	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation)	4,139	...	4,139	...	...	...	...	...	3,934	...	3,934	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation)	240	...	240	...	...	...	...	...	85	...	85	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	352	...	352	...	...	...	...	...	110	...	110	...	...	...	...	...
Total	51,408	175	50,866	175	...	542	...	4,609	74,868	52	74,628	52	...	240	...	833
Total (both current and arrear)	51,583		51,041		...	542		...	74,920		74,680		...	240		...
Percentage	...		98·95		...	1·05		...	...		99·68		...	·32		...

* This amount excludes Rs. 175 paid in the Naga Hills.

STATEMENT No. V—*continued.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Naga Hills.								Khasi and Jaintia Hills.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	41		42		43	44		45	46		47		48	49		50
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	513	...	160	...	...	353	...	...	426	...	426	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	3,300	...	2,200	...	...	1,100	...	...	200	...	200	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,125	320	5,125	120	200 *a*)	...	...	1,201
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	60,511	217	58,007	217	...	2,504	...	...	26,734	4,618	26,558	4,550	68(*a*)	176	...	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,802	...	20,802	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	206	...	206	...	...	...	...	...	297	223	297	223	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	100	...	...	...	...	...
Total	60,717	4,030	58,213	2,577	...	2,504	1,453	...	53,058	5,787	52,882	5,519	268(*a*)	176	...	1,201
Total (both current and arrear)	64,747		60,790		...	3,957		...	58,845		58,401		268(*a*)	176		1,201
Percentage	...		93·89		...	6·11		...	...		99·25		0·45	0·30		...

(*a*) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. V—*concluded.*

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Garo Hills.								Total.							
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
	51		52		53	54		55	56		57		58	59		60
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,250	1,424	8,862	1,071	...	388	353	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,500	5,200	15,700	4,100	...	5,800	1,100	600
3. Fisheries...	313	...	313	...	...	...	...	181	1,41,036	15,903	1,30,709	11,760	3,918(a)	10,327	225	27,638
4. Pot-tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,030	458	8,405	434	4(a)	525	20	177
5. House-tax	38,992	204	38,904	143	...	88	61	...	1,48,460	5,627	1,44,290	5,460	102(a)	4,170	65	...
6. Lime-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,802	...	20,802	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone-quarries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal-mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,448	223	37,448	223	...	...	...	...
9. Salt-wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	...	31	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold-washing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,679	...	27,679	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,772	...	11,772	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	...	1,280	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above	1,971	...	1,971	...	...	...	...	...	7,120	50	7,120	50	...	...	...	...
Total	41,276	204	41,188	143	...	88	61	181	4,35,308	28,885	4,14,098	23,098	4,024(a)	21,210	1,763	28,415
Total (both current and arrear)	41,480		41,331		...	149		...	4,64,193		4,37,196		4,024(a)	22,973		...
Percentage	...		99·64		...	0·36		...	...		94·18		0·87	4·95		...

(a) Arrear.

STATEMENT No. VI.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of Estates assessed at full rates in the Brahmaputra Valley during the years 1897-98 *and* 1898-99.

PART A.—ANNUAL.

Subdivision.	1897-98.				1898-99.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Eastern Duars	17,202	67,913	3·94	93,960	19,092	67,584	3·54	94,722	+ 762
Barpeta	32,055	68,433	2·13	1,35,288	27,554	49,616	1·80	1,04,842	— 30,446
Gauhati	72,144	132,380	1·83	2,99,150	72,060	120,386	1·67	2,83,255	— 15,895
Total Kamrup ...	104,199	200,813	1·93	4,34,438	99,614	170,002	1·71	3,88,097	— 46,341
Mangaldai	42,801	69,075	1·61	1,77,326	43,983	69,815	1·59	1,81,741	+ 4,415
Tezpur	30,192	48,736	1·61	1,17,350	31,756	49,583	1·56	1,18,010	+
Total Darrang	72,993	117,811	1·61	2,94,676	75,739	119,398	1·58	2,99,751	+ 5,075
Nowgong	83,572	128,516	1·53	2,93,993	90,912	133,437	1·47	3,15,681	+ 21,688
Golaghat	24,735	29,222	1·18	68,392	26,729	32,392	1·21	73,966	+ 5,574
Jorhat	31,024	41,599	1·34	99,488	32,641	45,299	1·39	1,08,172	+ 8,684
Sibsagar	33,722	55,560	1·65	1,39,534	35,568	58,721	1·65	1,46,811	+ 7,277
Total Sibsagar	89,481	126,381	1·41	3,07,414	94,938	136,412	1·44	3,28,949	+ 21,535
North Lakhimpur	17,223	25,299	1·46	58,148	19,562	28,336	1·45	62,529	+ 4,381
Dibrugarh	26,037	51,708	1·98	1,21,116	26,106	50,905	1·95	1,17,974	— 3,142
Total Lakhimpur	43,260	77,007	1·78	1,79,264	45,668	79,241	1·73	1,80,503	+ 1,239
Grand total	410,707	718,441	1·75	16,03,745	425,963	706,074	1·65	16,07,703	+ 3,958

PART B.—PERIODIC.

Subdivision.	1897-98.				1898-99.				Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Average area in each estate.	Revenue.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Eastern Duars	1	192	192	319	1	192	192	319	...
Barpeta	15,675	38,833	2·48	1,08,390	14,579	37,210	2·55	1,03,864	— 4,526
Gauhati	61,383	238,238	3·88	6,52,617	57,560	223,232	3·88	6,20,609	— 32,008
Total Kamrup	77,058	277,071	3·59	7,61,007	72,139	260,442	3·61	7,24,473	— 36,534
Mangaldai	27,586	76,812	2·78	2,13,509	27,151	74,790	2·75	2,07,376	— 6,133
Tezpur	15,589	51,159	3·28	1,38,095	18,571	54,385	2·93	1,46,753	+ 8,658
Total Darrang	43,175	127,971	2·96	3,51,604	45,722	129,175	2·82	3,54,129	+ 2,525
Nowgong	42,032	84,021	1·99	2,45,456	39,887	78,377	1·96	2,28,962	— 16,494
Golaghat	25,846	97,693	3·77	2,72,622	26,307	98,596	3·71	2,74,374	+ 1,752
Jorhat	34,136	134,320	3·93	3,75,714	34,033	134,787	3·96	3,76,607	+ 893
Sibsagar	26,346	101,846	3·87	2,71,638	26,488	102,789	3·88	2,73,860	+ 2,222
Total Sibsagar	86,328	333,859	3·86	9,19,974	86,828	336,172	3·88	9,24,841	4,867
North Lakhimpur	6,995	19,247	2·75	53,644	8,579	21,064	2·45	58,890	+ 5,246
Dibrugarh	13,845	68,819	4·97	1,81,110	17,043	78,540	4·61	2,05,300	+ 24,190
Total Lakhimpur	20,840	88,066	4·22	2,34,754	25,622	99,704	3·89	2,64,190	+ 29,436
Grand total	269,434	911,180	3·38	25,13,114	270,199	904,062	3·34	24,96,914	— 16,200

STATEMENT No. VII.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of Estates assessed at half rates in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the years 1897-98 *and* 1898-99.

District and subdivision.	Settled for one year.						Settled for ten years.						Up to what year settled.	Settled for twenty years.						Total.								Increase or decrease in area.	Increase or decrease in revenue.
	Number of cases.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.		Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.			Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Revenue.		Number of estates.		Area, in acres.		Assessed area, in acres.		Revenue.			
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.		1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					Rs.	Rs.					Rs.	Rs.						Rs.	Rs.							Rs.	Rs.		
Barpeta	...	...	...	...	...	...	204	203	13,384	13,334	12,088	12,050	1902-3	...	...	...	...	...	...	204	203	13,384	13,334	13,384	13,334	12,088	12,050	— 50	— 38
Gauhati	...	...	...	..	...	...	1,772	1,763	137,977	137,347	1,39,413	1,39,497		...	...	...	...	...	...	1,772	1,763	137,977	137,347	137,977	137,347	1,39,413	139,497	— 630	+ 84
Total Kamrup ...	...	...	...	..	...	...	1,976	1,966	151,361	150,681	1,51,501	1,51,547	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,976	1,966	151,361	150,681	151,361	150,681	1,51,501	151,547	— 680	+ 46
Mangaldai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	47	11,291	11,201	7,138	7,138	1898-99	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,768	61	61	29,167	29,167	29,063	29,063	15, 05	15,906	...	+ 1
Tezpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	30	1,911	1,880	1,775	1,747		...	...	...	...	...	...	30	30	1,911	1,880	1,911	1,880	1,775	1,747	— 31	— 28
Total Darrang ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	77	13,202	13,171	8,913	8,885	...	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,768	91	91	31,078	31,047	21,974	21,943	17,680	17,653	— 31	— 27
Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	24	5,542	5,382	4,546	4,444	1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	24	5,542	5,382	5,542	5,382	4,546	4,444	— 160	— 102
Golaghat	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	65	2,508	2,508	1,069	1,069		...	...	...	...	...	...	65	65	2,508	2,508	2,508	2,508	1,069	1,069	...	...
Jorhat	...	...	..	...	...	...	156	158	1,772	1,772	1,653	1,653	1900-1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	156	156	1,772	1,772	1,772	1,772	1,653	1,653	...	...
Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	123	123	711	711	692	692		...	...	...	...	...	...	123	123	711	711	711	711	692	692	...	...
Total Sibsagar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	344	344	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,414	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	344	344	4,991	4,991	4,991	4,991	3,414	3,414	...	...
North Lakhimpur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	273	273	346	346	(a) 1898-99 1898-99	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	273	273	273	273	346	346	...	...
Dibrugarh	1	1	50	50	60	60	13	14	967	967	1,391	1,395	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	15	1,013	1,017	1,013	1,017	1,451	1,455	+ 4	+ 4
Total Lakhimpur ...	1	1	50	50	60	60	28	29	1,236	1,240	1,737	1,741	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	30	1,286	1,290	1,286	1,290	1,707	1,801	+ 4	+ 4
Grand total ...	1	1	50	50	60	60	2,450	2,440	176,332	175,465	1,70,1.1	1,70,031	...	14	14	17,876	17,876	8,767	8,768	2,465	2,455	194,258	193,391	185,154	184,287	1,78,938	1,78,859	— 867	— 709

(a) 12 estate's
(b) 3 ,,
15

STATEMENT No. VIII.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of Estates settled on special terms in the Brahmaputra Valley districts for the years 1897-98 *and* 1898-99.

—	1897-98.			1898-99.			Increase or decrease in revenue.	Rates at which settled.
	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area settled, in acres.	Revenue.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	
Chota Guma	17	764	549	17	764	549	...	*Basti* at Re. 1-8, *rupit* at Re. 1-2; *faringati* at 9 annas and fallow land at 3 annas per acre.
Latka	23	219	507	23	219	507	...	*Basti* at Re. 1-2 and *rupit* at 12 annas per *bigha*.
Goalpara *chur*	1	675	18	1	675	18	...	Sold by public auction.
„ Hill	1	3	4	1	3	4	...	Settled at 8 annas per *bigha*.
Total Goalpara	42	1,661	1,078	42	1,661	1,078	...	
Chamua (Barpeta) ...	1	449	1,302	1	472	1,361	+ 59	At ordinary rates.
Jalukbari *khat* (Gauhati) ...	1	274	316	1	274	336	+ 20	
Phatasil *khat* („) ...	1	541	210	1	541	220	+ 10	
North Gauhati	339	302	1,859	359	314	1,942	+ 83	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Total Kamrup	342	1,566	3,687	362	1,601	3,859	+ 172	
6 pie *lakhiraj* estates (Tezpur)	2	677	48	2	677	39	— 9	At 6 pies per *bigha* on cultivation.
Auniati *khat* (Nowgong) ...	1	1,993	1,012	1	1,993	957	— 55	At ordinary rates.
Ten-twenties (Jorhat) ...	3	69	197	3	69	197	...	Land revenue above Rs. 10, in some cases above Rs. 20, remitted.
„ (Sibsagar) ...	9	205	521	8	182	457	— 64	
Total Sibsagar	12	274	718	11	251	654	— 64	
6 pie *lakhiraj* estates (North Lakhimpur)	7	2,078	84	7	2,078	84	...	At 6 pies per *bigha* on cultivation.
Khiraj khat (Dibrugarh) ...	1	162	394	1	171	414	+ 20	At ordinary rates.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with the Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited, Dibrugarh	1	84	508	1	84	508	...	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with *Kyahs*, Dibrugarh	9	1	18	9	1	18	...	Ditto.
Special settlement of lands in Margherita made with the Makum Tea Company, Dibrugarh	1	322	503	1	332	503	...	At 8 annas per *bigha*.
Special settlement of lands on either side of the Makum Branch of the Dibru-Sadiya Railway, Dibrugarh ...	2	5,710	8,637	2	5,710	8,637	...	Rent-free for 3 years; at 8 annas per *bigha* for 7 years.
30 years' lease granted to Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited, Dibrugarh	...	...	...	2	1,985	...	...	
Total Lakhmpur	21	8,357	10,144	23	10,361	10,164	+ 20	
Grand total	420	14,528	16,687	441	16,544	16,751	+ 64	

STATEMENT No. IX.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of khiraj *and* nisf-khiraj *Estates in the several towns of the Brahmaputra Valley Districts at the end of the two years* 1897-98 *and* 1898-99.

Town.	1897-98.															1898-99.														Increase or decrease in revenue.	Rates of assessments.
	Khiraj.									*Nisf-khiraj.*			Total.			*Khiraj.*									*Nisf-khiraj.*			Total.			
	Annual.			Periodic.			Total.									Annual.			Periodic.			Total.									
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.	
Dhubri town	260	95	688	2	14	173	262	109	861	...	...	...	262	109	861	251	93	671	2	14	173	253	107	844	...	...	...	253	107	844	— 17	Rs. 2 for *basti* and Rs. 5 for bazar land per *bigha*.
Barpeta	323	130	735	...	...	...	323	130	735	3	364	896	326	494	1,631	17	24	62	276	95	617	293	119	679	3	364	896	296	483	1,575	— 56	Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Gauhati	23	22	486	630	366	5,172	653	388	5,658	3	3	12	656	391	5,670	28	22	536	632	346	4,991	660	368	5,527	3	3	12	663	371	5,539	—131	From Rs. 2 to Rs. 150 per *bigha*.
Total Kamrup ...	346	152	1,221	630	366	5,172	976	518	6,393	6	367	908	982	885	7,301	45	46	598	908	441	5,608	953	487	6,206	6	367	908	959	854	7,114	—187	
Mangaldai	68	32	199	...	...	...	68	32	199	...	20	14	68	52	213	66	30	186	...	...	...	66	30	186	...	20	14	66	50	200	— 13	At Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Tezpur	396	265	1,642	2	11	23	398	276	1,665	...	...	...	398	276	1,665	411	266	1,652	2	11	23	413	277	1,675	...	31	28	413	308	1,703	+ 38	
Total Darrang ...	464	297	1,841	2	11	23	466	308	1,864	...	20	14	466	328	1,878	477	296	1,838	2	11	23	479	307	1,861	...	51	42	479	358	1,903	+ 25	
Nowgong town ...	652	521	3,202	74	66	246	726	587	3,448	...	...	...	726	587	3,448	215	140	877	548	472	2,720	763	612	3,597	...	...	...	763	612	3,597	+149	Annual, at Rs. 2 per *bigha* and periodic at first class ordinary *khiraj* rates.
Golaghat	...	...	...	352	356	2,821	352	356	2,821	...	...	...	352	356	2,821	...	...	...	350	353	2,809	350	353	2,809	...	...	...	350	353	2,809	— 12	*Khiraj* at from Re. 1-4 to Rs. 50 and *nisf-khiraj* at from annas 8 to Re. 1 per *bigha*.
Jorhat	50	10	134	218	225	1,618	268	235	1,752	3	4	9	271	239	1,761	50	10	134	219	225	1,618	269	235	1,752	3	4	9	272	239	1,761	...	
Sibsagar	37	41	310	994	1,204	7,015	1,031	1,245	7,325	4	21	32	1,035	1,266	7,357	37	42	317	992	1,201	6,999	1,029	1,243	7,316	4	21	32	1,033	1,264	7,348	— 9	
Total Sibsagar ...	87	51	444	1,564	1,785	11,454	1,651	1,836	11,898	7	25	41	1,658	1,861	11,939	87	52	451	1,561	1,779	11,426	1,648	1,831	11,877	7	25	41	1,655	1,856	11,918	— 21	
North Lakhimpur ...	266	538	2,001	...	...	...	266	538	2,001	1	32	57	267	570	2,058	9	8	36	263	532	1,980	272	540	2,016	1	32	57	273	572	2,073	+ 15	From annas 12 to Rs. 2 per *bigha*.
Dibrugarh	12	7	106	485	491	8,744	497	498	8,850	...	...	...	497	498	8,850	9	7	71	488	491	8,739	497	498	8,810	...	...	...	497	498	8,810	— 40	Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 per *bigha*.
Total Lakhimpur ...	278	545	2,107	485	491	8,744	763	1,036	10,851	1	32	57	764	1,068	10,908	18	15	107	751	1,023	10,719	769	1,038	10,826	1	32	57	770	1,070	10,883	— 25	
Grand total	2,087	1,661	9,503	2,757	2,733	25,812	4,844	4,394	3 5315	14	444	1,020	4,858	4,838	36,335	1,093	642	4,542	3,772	3,740	30,669	4,865	4,382	35,211	14	475	1,048	4,879	4,857	36,259	— 76	

STATEMENT No. X.

Statement showing the Number, Area, and Revenue of different classes of revenue-paying Estates in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1898-99.

District.	Permanently-settled.			*Khiraj*, annual.			*Khiraj*, periodic.		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goalpara	19	375,462	11,411	19,343	67,677	95,393	3	206	492
Kamrup	...	...	...	99,659	170,048	3,88,695	73,047	260,883	7,30,081
Darrang	...	...	...	76,216	119,694	3,01,589	45,724	129,186	3,54,152
Nowgong	...	...	...	91,127	133,577	3,16,558	40,435	78,849	2,31,682
Sibsagar	...	...	...	95,025	136,464	3,29,400	88,389	337,951	9,36,267
Lakhimpur	...	...	...	45,686	79,256	1,80,610	26,373	100,727	2,74,909
Total for 1898-99	19	375,462	11,411	427,056	706,716	16,12,245	273,971	907,802	25,27,583
1895-96	19	375,821	11,411	406,992	755,463	17,03,944	247,311	863,249	24,14,650
1896-97	19	375,821	11,411	424,393	774,172	17,42,985	243,592	857,453	23,99,907
1897-98	19	375,462	11,411	412,794	720,102	16,13,248	272,191	913,913	25,38,926

District.	Special tenures.			*Nisf-khiraj*.			Waste Land grants.			Total revenue-paying estates.		
	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Goalpara	42	1,661	1,078	...	...	...	2	1,928	180	19,409	446,934	1,08,554
Kamrup	362	1,601	3,859	1,972	151,048	1,52,455	27	6,812	2,341	175,067	590,392	12,77,431
Darrang	2	677	39	91	31,098	17,695	225	70,694	29,465	122,258	351,349	7,02,940
Nowgong	1	1,993	957	24	5,382	4,444	84	30,945	27,960	131,671	250,746	5,81,601
Sibsagar	11	251	654	351	5,716	3,455	264	78,252	43,540	184,040	557,034	13,13,316
Lakhimpur	23	10,361	10,164	31	1,322	1,858	160	61,787	30,020	72,273	253,453	4,97,561
Total for 1898-99 ...	441	16,544	16,751	2,469	193,866	1,79,907	762	250,418	1,33,506	704,718	2,450,808	44,81,403
1895-96	865	13,977	16,272	2,479	195,022	1,79,934	597	196,062	87,816	658,263	2,399,594	44,13,927
1896-97	389	13,789	7,742	2,477	194,702	1,79,958	615	201,533	90,189	671,485	2,417,470	44,35,192
1897-98	420	14,538	16,687	2,479	194,702	1,79,938	676	225,510	1,08,146	688,599	2,444,227	44,68,376

The area of roads, rivers, etc., situated within the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district appears in column 3 as well as in column 21, similar areas in the temporarily-settled tracts are excluded from this Statement.

STATEMENT No. XI.

Statement showing the relinquishments in the Brahmaputra Valley during the years 1897-98 *and* 1898-99.

Subdivision.	Total number of estates.		Total area, in acres.		Total number of estates in which relinquishments occurred.		Total area resigned, in acres.		Proportion of relinquishments to the total.			
									Number of estates.		Area, in acres.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Goalpara (Eastern Duars)	17,203	19,093	68,105	67,776	6,602	5,305	18,684	13,760	32·56	27·78	27·43	20·30
Barpeta	47,730	42,133	107,266	86,826	20,089	8,894	45,067*	16,248	42·29	21·11	42·01	18·71
Gauhati	133,527	129,620	370,618	343,618	35,965	11,593	46,976	25,066	26·93	8·94	12·46	7·29
Total Kamrup	181,257	171,753	477,884	430,444	56,054	20,487	92,043	41,314	30·93	11·93	19·26	9·59
Mangaldai	70,387	71,134	145,887	144,605	8,493	5,546	12,358	8,026	12·06	7·80	8·47	5·55
Tezpur	45,781	50,327	99,895	103,968	4,462	3,875	6,418	5,102	9·74	7·69	6·42	4·90
Total Darrang	116,168	121,461	245,782	248,573	12,955	9,421	18,776	13,128	11·15	7·76	7·64	5·28
Nowgong	125,604	130,799	212,537	211,814	18,475	15,896	33,829	29,614	14·76	12·15	15·87	13·98
Golaghat	50,581	53,036	126,915	130,988	4,963	3,615	7,409	6,173	9·81	6·81	5·83	4·71
Jorhat	65,160	66,674	175,919	180,086	4,043	4,092	7,485	7,557	6·20	6·14	4·25	4·19
Sibsagar	60,068	62,056	157,406	161,510	1,877	2,390	3,025	2,351	3·12	3·85	1·92	1·46
Total Sibsagar	175,809	181,766	460,240	472,584	10,883	10,097	17,919	16,081	6·19	5·55	3·89	3·40
North Lakhimpur	24,218	28,141	44,546	49,400	3,155	3,539	6,274	8,102	13·02	12·57	14·08	16·40
Dibrugarh	39,882	43,149	120,527	129,544	1,926	935	3,497	3,090	4·82	2·17	2·90	2·38
Total Lakhimpur	64,100	71,290	165,073	178,945	5,081	4,474	9,771	11,192	7·72	6·27	5·85	6·25
Grand total	680,141	696,162	1,629,621	1,610,136	110,050	65,680	191,022*	125,089	16·18	9·43	11·70	7·77

* Revised figures have been furnished in the report for 1898-99.

STATEMENT No. XII.

Statement showing the proportion of the settled area of each subdivision of the Brahmaputra Valley to the total area, and the unsettled area in each subdivision during the year 1898-99.

Subdivision and district.	Total area of subdivision and district, in acres.	Area settled, in acres.			Forest Reserve.	Unsettled area (difference between column 2 and total of columns 5 and 6).	Percentage of area settled to the total area of the subdivision and district.
		Revenue-paying.	Revenue-free, including fee-simple.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Dhubri	1,665,448	730,998	...	730,998	460,823	473,627	43·88
Goalpara	864,817	859,453	...	859,453	...	5,364	99·37
Total Goalpara	2,530,265*	1,590,451	...	1,590,451	460,823	478,991	62·85
Barpeta	803,200	121,835	1,130	122,965	...	680,235	15·31
Gauhati	1,539,398	468,557	48,963	517,520	94,704	927,174	33·61
Total Kamrup	2,342,598*	590,392	50,093	640,485	94,704	1,607,409	27·34
Mangaldai	879,173	196,891	28,055	224,946	17,372	636,855	25·58
Tezpur	1,306,949	153,781	30,654	184,435	174,636	947,878	14·11
Total Darrang	2,186,122*	350,672	58,709†	409,381	192,008	1,584,733	18·72
Nowgong	2,086,504	250,746	23,663	274,409	91,788	1,720,307	13·15
Golaghat	560,191	155,434	27,113	182,547	20,290	357,354	32·58
Jorhat	612,724	191,671	95,292	286,963	11,801	313,960	46·83
Sibsagar	633,273	210,829	40,999	251,828	49,398	332,047	39·77
Total Sibsagar	1,806,188	557,934	163,404	721,338	81,489	1,003,361	39·93
North Lakhimpur	742,558	61,899	10,611	72,510	18,906	651,142	9·76
Dibrugarh	1,640,520	191,553	108,578	300,131	255,470	1,084,919	18·29
Total Lakhimpur	2,383,078	253,452	119,189†	372,641	274,376	1,736,061	15·63
Grand total	13,334,755	3,593,647	415,058	4,008,705	1,195,188	8,130,862	30·06

* Include the area of the Brahmaputra river. | † Areas have been revised and corrected.

The area of roads, rivers, etc., situated within the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district appears in column 3 as well as column 2, and not in column 7; similar areas in the temporarily-settled tracts appear in column 2 and column 7.

STATEMENT No. XIII.

Suits under the Rent Laws in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1898-99.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XIV.

Applications to Collectors for aid in distraint and to Civil Court amins or other officers for sale of distrained property in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1898-99.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XV.

Cases in which penalties were imposed for non-payment of rent in the Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1898-99.

(BLANK.)

STATEMENT No. XVI.

Proceedings under Chapter V of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886, in the district of Sylhet, during the year 1898-99.

Class of estate.	Number of estates in arrears on latest day of payment.	Revenue demand.		Amount of arrears.		Number of estates in which arrears were paid up before sale.	Number of estates exempted from sale.	Total sales.							Purchased for Government.			
									Government demand.		Due for which sold.					Government demand.		
		Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.			Number.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Talabana.	Purchase-money.	Number.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Purchase-money.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Permanently-settled	13,315	2,79,067	1,72,703	1,23,343	86,034	11,028	2,064	222	1,958	683	1,473	483	473	91,301	10	22	3	11
Temporarily-settled { Jaintia ...	45,734	3,22,769	19,245	1,86,284	11,314	35,629	4,822†	145	1,394	85	2,190	129	664	12,275	...	...	...	...
Temporarily-settled { Others ...	6,431	1,80,832	10,346	95,729	6,276	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Revenue-free	215	...	3,082	...	2,159	165	33	16	...	9	...	9	38	627	1	...	1	1
Total	65,695*	7,82,668	2,05,376	4,05,356	1,05,783	46,829	6,919	383‡	3,352	777	3,663	621	1,175	1,04,203	11	22	4	12

Class of estate.	Balance in favour of defaulters.	Balance not covered by sale.	Deposits forfeited, section 78.		Number regained by proprietors.	Number of appeals.	Sales annulled, sections 79 and 81.				Recommended for annulment.				
							Government demand.		Amount due when sold.			Government demand.		Amount due when sold.	
			Number.	Amount forfeited.			Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Number.	Land revenue.	Local rate.	Land revenue.	Local rate.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Permanently-settled	88,904	32	36	1,299	25	49	83	53	47	35	8	12	9	8	6
Temporarily-settled { Jaintia ...	9,295	3	22	546	6	29	13	1	27	2	...	...	...	...	...
Temporarily-settled { Others ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Revenue-free	583	3	2	26	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	1
Total	98,782	38	60	1,871	32	79	96	55	74	38	9	12	10	8	7

* The sales of 5,144 estates were held after the close of the year (permanently 3, revenue-free 3, and Jaintia temporarily-settled 5,138).

† Inclusive of 648 estates with an area of below four annas each.

‡ This is inclusive of 4 resales (2 permanently-settled and 2 revenue-free).

STATEMENT No. XVII.

Business performed in the Revenue Department of the Deputy Commissioners' Offices in the Plains Districts of Assam during the year 1898-99.

Description of business.	Cachar.				Sylhet.				Goalpara.				Kamrup.				Darrang.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1. Settlement of land revenue and local rates of mauzas and tahsils.	806	662	831	637	...	...	...	...	...	31	31	...	...	144	144	...	...	62	62	...
2. Settlement of land revenue of waste lands, section 1 of the Settlement Rules.	4	...	3	1	4	1	1	4	3	...	...	3	6	...	6	...	43	14	38	19
3. Other settlements where the land revenue is paid direct	...	...	...	...	297	651	665	283	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	...	...	...	...	...
4. Assessment of local rates not included in heading 1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Resumption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Mutation cases under Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation.	6,931*	4,546	3,586	789 1	2,370	6,873	8,298	945	4	2	2	4	1,247	4,908	4,234	1,921	236	1,791	1,665	362
7. *Bakijai* cases under Chapter V of Land and Revenue Regulation.	...	...	...	...	237	1,803	1,766	674	90	1,054	1,100	44	1,489	10,508	9,324	2,673	849	4,579	4,033	1,395
8. Annulments of settlements under section 90 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	44	...	...	55	55	...
9. Sales for arrears of revenue under sections 70 and 71 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	2	15	16	1	57	383	385	55	...	...	...	...	...	130	46	84	18	101	103	16
10. Annulment of sales	...	...	...	...	57	82†	92	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Partition cases under Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation	...	1	...	1	25	17	23	19	...	...	...	...	62	142	79	125	1	8	8	1
12. Cases of acquisition of land for public purposes ...	10	7	7	10	548	280	218	610	...	...	...	...	2	7	6	3	...	...	...	...
13. Claims to money in deposit and precept cases ...	...	...	...	...	66	394	384	76	...	...	...	...	...	38	37	1	...	9	9	...
14. Excise cases	...	42	42	...	...	52	52	...	...	37	37	...	...	39	39	...	...	55	55	...
15. Stamp cases	...	7	7	...	19	264	269	14	...	22	21	1	...	11	9	2	...	6	6	...
16. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits ...	1	...	1	...	10	74	71	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Government decrees executed	...	...	...	...	15	74	73	16	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
18. Appeals	3	8	10	1	3	103	43	63	...	...	...	...	2	27	15	14	...	9	9	...

* These were erroneously omitted from the statement appended to the Report for 1897-98.
† Including three appeals under section 81 of Land and Revenue Regulation.

STATEM ENT No. XVII—*continued.*

Description of business.	Cachar.				Sylhet.				Goalpara.				Kamrup.				Darrang.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19. Miscellaneous cases	24	44	43	25	2,036	1,732	3,550	218	...	46	40	6	58	157	147	68	13	91	88	16
20. Petitions	...	460	460	...	...	2,528	2,528	...	5	466	462	9	2,985	2,387	4,928	444	456	2,681	2,766	371
21. Papers other than petitions	...	785	785	...	...	4,629	4,629	...	4	1,010	1,006	8	94	9,275	9,300	69	47	1,322	1,327	42
22. Applications for relinquishment of land	...	...	...	...	1	307	272	36	...	5,305	5,305	...	...	20,514	20,514	...	...	10,122	10,122	...
23. Applications for waste land under section II of the Settlement Rules.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	127	128	...	287	1,596	1,698	185	290	1,579	1,660	209
24. Applications for separate account	...	...	...	...	211	984	897	298	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Miscellaneous applications	...	544	544	...	189	5,057	5,167	79	2	103	104	1	...	1,204	1,201	3	44	1,087	1,117	14
26. Miscellaneous cases connected with Government estates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Processes	...	4,773	4,773	...	6	87,267	87,223	50	344	2,320	2,555	109	608	27,604	26,173	2,039	73	12,209	12,109	83
28. Notices under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869	...	...	...	...	...	85	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Periodical returns	...	200	200	...	...	64	64	...	...	778	778	...	...	2,763	2,763	...	...	440	440	...
30. Bills prepared	...	597	597	...	...	788	788	...	...	754	754	...	...	617	614	3	...	468	468	...
31. Miscellaneous business	...	3,109	3,109	...	...	2,118	2,118	...	...	2,050	2,050	...	...	35,295	35,295	...	...	28,154	28,154	...
32. Objection to cadastral survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	15	...
33. Applications for the registration of taluqdari tenures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Certificates issued under section 91 (2) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	14	16	7	8	26	31	3	4	34	29	9
35. Applications for Agricultural loans	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Certificates issued under Public Demand Recovery Act	...	...	...	...	175*	1,375	1,061	489	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	7,781	15,800	15,014	8,567	6,326	118,001	120,338	3,989	462	14,146	14 416	192	6,848	117,449	116,660	7,637	2,084	64,881	64,428	2,537

* These were erroneously omitted from the statement appended to the Report for 1897-98.

STATEMENT No. XVII—*continued.*

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibsagar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
1. Settlement of land revenue and local rates of mauzas and tahsils.	...	91	91	...	...	61	61	...	...	67	67	...	806	1,118	1,287	637
2. Settlement of land revenue of waste lands, section I of Settlement Rules.	5	1	...	6	42	37	35	44	46	30	38	38	153	83	121	115
3. Other settlements where the land revenue is paid direct.	...	...	...	...	1*	16	17	...	...	...	...	...	298	679	694	283
4. Assessment of local rates not included in heading I	...	85	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	175	175	...	...	287	287	...
5. Resumption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Mutation cases under Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation.	207	1,967	1,842	332	930	3,456	3,565	821	114	1,251	1,145	220	12,039	24,794	24,337	12,496
7. *Bakijai* cases under Chapter V of Land and Revenue Regulation.	3,485	3,666	3,515	3,636	1,772	4,007	3,353	2,426	297	1,333	1,265	365	8,219	26,950	23,956	11,213
8. Annulments of settlements under section 90 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	108	108	...
9. Sales for arrear of revenue under sections 70 and 91 of Land and Revenue Regulation.	243	116	294	65	4	102	106	...	...	14	14	...	324	861	964	221
10. Annulments of sales	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	82	92	47
11. Partition cases under Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation.	2	1	3	...	129	123	113	139	5	27	26	6	224	319	252	291

* Erroneously omitted from the statement appended to the Report for 1897-98.

STATEMENT No. XVII—*continued.*

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibsagar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
12. Cases of acquisition of land for public purposes ...	24	3	5	22	5	5	10	...	2	1	2	1	591	303	248	646
13. Claims to money in deposits	...	...	...	...	...	24	24	...	...	5	5	...	66	470	459	77
14. Excise cases	...	...	...	...	...	69	64	5	...	...	...	...	...	294	289	5
15. Stamp cases	1	2	2	1	2	85	83	4	...	47	46	1	22	444	443	23
16. Pleadings prepared in Government and other suits ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	74	72	13
17. Government decrees executed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	75	74	16
18. Appeals	4	8	12	...	5	31	28	8	...	3	3	...	17	189	120	86
19. Miscellaneous cases	49	117	141	25	6	118	108	16	66	433	438	61	2,252	2,738	4,555	435
20. Petitions	153	2,279	2,153	279	498	4,146	3,913	731	177	1,817	1,787	207	4,274	16,764	18,997	2,041
21. Papers other than petitions	377	2,150	2,376	151	200	2,098	2,062	236	218	2,320	2,319	219	940	23,589	23,804	725
22. Applications for relinquishment of land	...	16,484	16,484	...	...	9,433	9,433	...	...	5,451	5,451	...	1	67,616	67,581	36
23. Applications for waste land under section II of the Settlement Rules.	658	3,096	2,961	793	354	1,905	1,897	362	266	1,136	1,293	109	1,856	9,439	9,637	1,658

STATEMENT No. XVII—*continued.*

Description of business.	Nowgong.				Sibsagar.				Lakhimpur.				Total.			
	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending at the close of last year.	Instituted during the year.	Disposed of.	Pending at the close of last year.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
24. Applications for separate accounts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	984	897	298
25. Miscellaneous applications	...	559	516	43	13	2,631	2,631	13	8	922	921	9	256	12,107	12,201	162
26. Miscellaneous cases connected with Government estates.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Processes	247	12,731	12,646	332	...	22,071	22,071	...	253	3,998	4,029	222	1,531	172,973	171,669	2,835
28. Notices under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85	85	...
29. Periodical returns	...	120	120	...	...	820	820	...	...	798	798	...	...	5,983	5,983	...
30. Bills prepared	...	138	138	...	...	747	747	...	...	1,239	1,239	...	...	5,348	5,345	3
31. Miscellaneous business	...	4,035	4,035	...	4	16,194	16,194	4	47	7,967	8,014	...	51	98,922	98,969	4
32. Objections to cadastral survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	15	...
33. Applications for the registration of taluqdari tenures...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Certificates issued under section 91 (2) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.	51	41	79	13	1	...	1	...	4	9	12	1	77	124	168	33
35. Applications for agricultural loans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	13	...
36 Certificates issued under Public Demand Recovery Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	175	1,375	1,061	489
Total	5,506	47,690	47,498	5,698	3,966	68,185	67,342	4,809	1,503	29,043	29,087	1,459	34,476	475,195	474,783	34,888

STATEMENT No. XVIII.

Lands taken up for public purposes and compensation paid for them during the year 1898-99.

Serial No.	District.	Purposes for which land was taken up.	Area of land taken.	Cash compensation paid including other charges.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			A. *r.* *p.* *y.*	*Rs.* *a.* *p.*	
1	Cachar	Assam-Bengal Railway ...	4 1 33 0	216 12 4	A sum of Rs. 148-2 was actually awarded for the area acquired during the year, of which Rs. 44 only were paid and Rs. 104-2 are still due to the claimants. A further sum of Rs. 172-12-4 was paid during the year on account of outstanding balance of the previous year.
2		Quarters of the native officers of the Silchar Military Police Battalion.	1 2 0 0	800 0 0	
3		Diversion of the Manipur road at Kasipur.	9 1 0 0	603 15 8	Of this amount Rs. 583-3-6 were paid to the owners and Rs. 20-12-2 have been attached under a civil court decree.
4		Brick-field in Narayanpur ...	2 0 4 0	209 8 3	
5		Road through Neawatpur and Sarbanandapur.	6 1 31 0	.....	The total awards in these cases amount to Rs. 745-11 and Rs. 4,801-5-5, respectively, but the claimants could not be paid for want of funds, as the previous year's allotment had lapsed owing to non-completion of the acquisition proceedings in time.
6		Manacherra-Kalacherra road ...	51 3 30 0	.....	
7	Sylhet...	Assam-Bengal Railway ...	11 1 30 0	2,601 0 0	
8		Coolie depot at Manumukh ...	0 3 35 0	60 0 0	
9		Ditto at Kulaura ...	0 1 39 0	104 0 0	
10		Road from the Sylhet-Cachar trunk road to Kanairghat.	4 3 33 0	.....	No compensation was paid.
11		Ditto the Jaldhup police station to Bairagi Bazar.	29 0 0 0	.....	Ditto ditto.
12		Widening and raising the Ohiracherra road from Nilam Bazar to Sherpur.	33 0 0 0	5,002 0 0	
13		Amuja village road ...	1 0 2 0	49 0 0	
14		Akilpur „ „	0 3 38 0	91 0 0	
15		Sekhghat municipal road ...	0 0 19 0	57 0 0	
16		Site for the India General Steam Navigation Company's Steamer godown at Fenchuganj	9 3 0 0	1,600 0 0	
17		Tank lying on the west of the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow compound at Sylhet.	3 0 0 0	225 0 0	
18		Sites for the residences of European officers stationed at Sylhet.	21 2 21 0	9,292 0 0	
19		Sites for the new public offices in the town of Sylhet.	2 2 31 0	2,947 0 0	
20		Pagla-Govindganj road	49 0 18 0	2,991 0 0	
21	Goalpara ...	Construction of an embankment by the riverside in Dhubri.	4 2 19 6	27 12 0	Compensation paid to the occupant raiyats for removing their houses from the land.
22	Kamrup ...	Brick-field for the Assam-Bengal Railway.	2 3 26 0	55 10 0	This represents the amount paid during the year.
22	Nowgong.	Silghat coolie depót	1 1 0 0	200 0 0	
23		Titaimari bridge of the Assam-Bengal Railway.	1 0 38 12	340 0 0	The land being held under an annual *patta*, the amount was awarded to the occupants for their houses and trees.
24		Brick-field of the Assam-Bengal Railway at Jamunamukh.	24 2 28 24	137 0 0	The amount was awarded as compensation for a plot of land held under decennial lease as well as for crops standing on a piece of land held under an annual lease.
25	Sibsagar	Road diversion of the Assam-Bengal Railway in the sadr subdivision.	3 1 11 6		
26		Boarding house for the students at Sibsagar.	1 0 25 18	2,093 0 0	
27		Municipal school at Sibsagar ...	1 1 19 6		
28		Dikhu bridge of the Assam-Bengal Railway.	16 2 19 6		
29		Assam-Bengal Railway in the Jorhat subdivision.	33 0 0 0	.....	Nothing mentioned as to compensation.
30	Lakhimpur..	New line for the Military Police in the town of Dibrugarh.	3 3 14 12	2,360 11 4	The amount was awarded as compensation to the occupant raiyats.
		Total	337 3 5 29½	32,063 5 7	

STATEMENT No. XIX.

Statement illustrative of the value of land revenue assigned or alienated in the temporarily-settled estates of the province to the end of 1898-99.

Class of tenure.	Cachar.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	1,821	...	1,821	788	...	788	...	...	...	788	...	788
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	475	475	...	303	303	...	...	...	...	303	303
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Total	1,821	475	2,296	788	303	1,091	...	...	...	788	303	1,091

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Sylhet.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	7,182	7,182	...	7,187	7,187	...	...	...	...	7,187	71,87
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	82	82	...	51	51	...	30	30	...	21	21
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	7,264	7,264	...	7,238	7,238	...	30	30	...	7,208	7,208

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Goalpara.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Kamrup.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	33,110	33,110	...	49,812	49,812	...	...	...	...	49,812	49,812
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	151,048	151,048	...	3,04,910	3,04,910	...	1,52,455	1,52,455	...	1,52,455	1,52,455
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.Temple (*Namghar*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	184,158	184,158	...	3,54,722	3,54,722	...	1,52,455	1,52,455	...	2,02,267	2,02,267

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Darrang.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	5,527	5,527	...	8,984	8,984	...	39	39	...	8,945	8,945
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	31,098	31,098	...	32,866	32,866	...	16,433	16,433	...	16,433	16,433
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	236	236	...	484	484	...	...	...	...	484	484
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	64	64	...	262	262	...	17	17	...	245	245
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	36,925	36,925	...	42,596	42,596	...	16,489	16,489	...	26,107	26,107

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Nowgong.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	2,314	2,314	...	3,102	3,102	...	...	...	...	3,102	3,102
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	5,382	5,382	...	11,202	11,202	...	4,444	4,444	...	6,758	6,758
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	48	48	...	202	202	...	...	...	...	202	202
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	7,744	7,744	...	14,506	14,506	...	4,444	4,444	...	10,062	10,062

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Sibsagar.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servaats.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	37,888	37,888	...	18,098	18,098	...	...	...	...	18,098	18,098
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	5,016	5,016	...	8,807	8,807	...	3,455	3,455	...	5,352	5,352
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	127	127	...	344	344	...	...	...	...	344	344
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	123	123	...	326	326	...	...	...	...	326	326
7. Ten-twenties	...	251	251	...	760	760	...	106	106	...	654	654
8. *Nagakhat*	754	...	754	1,666	...	1,666	...	...	...	1,666	...	1,666
9. *Kataki*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Chaukidari*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	754	43,405	44,159	1,666	28,335	30,001	...	3,561	3,561	1,666	24,774	26,440

STATEMENT No. XIX—*continued.*

Class of tenure.	Lakhimpur.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Baksha*												
2. *Lakhiraj*												
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	4,197	4,197	...	5,675	5,675	...	1,858	1,858	...	3,817	3,817
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free												
5. Pension												
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Ten-twenties	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
8. *Nagakhat*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. *Kataki*	140	...	140	355	...	355	...	...	...	355	...	355
10. *Chaukidari*												
Total	140	4,197	4,337	355	5,675	6,030	...	1,858	1,858	355	3,817	4,172

STATEMENT No. XIX—*concluded.*

Class of tenure.	Total.											
	Area, in acres.			Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.
	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Bakśha*	1,821	...	1,821	788	...	788	...	...	...	788	...	788
2. *Lakhiraj*	...	86,496	86,496	...	87,486	87,486	...	39	39	...	87,447	87,447
3. *Nisf-khiraj*	...	192,626	192,626	...	3,57,836	3,57,836	...	1,76,817	1,76,817	...	1,81,019	1,81,019
4. *Khiraj*, rent-free	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Pension	...	363	363	...	828	828	...	...	...	...	828	828
6. Temple (*Namghar*)	...	235	235	...	790	790	...	17	17	...	773	773
7. Ten-twenties	...	251	251	...	760	760	...	106	106	...	654	654
8. *Nagakhat*	754	...	754	1,666	...	1,666	...	...	...	1,666	...	1,666
9. *Kataki*	140	...	140	355	...	355	...	...	...	355	...	355
10. *Chaukidari*												
Add for *lakhiraj*, *nisf-khiraj*, *khiraj*, rent-free and pension tenures for the Lakhimpur district grouped together ...	...	4,197	4,197	...	5,675	5,675	...	1,858	1,858	...	3,817	3,817
Total	2,715	284,168	286,883	2,809	4,53,375	4,56,184	...	1,78,837	1,78,837	2,809	2,74,538	2,77,347

ASSAM SECRETARIAT PRINTING OFFICE (REVENUE) No. 349—250—21-12-99.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1900-1901.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND REVENUE IN ASSAM

FOR THE YEAR

1900-1901.

SECTION I.

WEATHER, CROPS, AND PRICES.

TAKING the province as a whole, the year was one of deficient rainfall, which was, moreover, badly distributed. In April the rainfall was above, and in May and June below, the average, but it was heavier than usual in July. In August it was more or less in defect throughout the province, the deficiency being most marked in the Khasi and the Garo Hills and in the district of Goalpara. The rainfall of September was very light, the Surma Valley receiving only half, and the hill districts less than half, the normal amount for the month. From October to March the province received a very small amount of rain.

Rainfall.

In his Divisional Report for the Brahmaputra Valley, the Commissioner remarks that an excess of rain in July caused calamitous floods, resulting in serious loss of cattle and of crops in the districts of Kamrup and Goalpara, while the sudden cessation of the monsoon early in September was even more disastrous, causing in all the districts of the Valley, except Lakhimpur and Sibsagar, perhaps the most widespread failure of the late or *sali* rice crop known within living memory.

Taking these districts as a whole, the rainfall was much below the average, and there was a continued drought during the last six months of the year. The weather was most unfavourable to the cultivation of paddy, and almost every kind of crop suffered more or less for want of rain.

Cachar and Sylhet.

In the Naga Hills the rainfall was considerably below the average. The short rainfall did some damage to the lower terrace cultivation, but was favourable to the *jhum* cultivation. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills the rainfall was below the average everywhere in the district, and in the Garo Hills it was less than in the preceding year.

Hill districts.

2. In Cachar thunderstorms with hail occurred in the nights of the 16th, 17th, and 18th April 1900. In Sylhet there were no remarkable storms, and in the Sunamganj subdivision alone was there a flood of any note. This occurred in July, and did no damage to the crops. As stated above, there were also high floods in the districts of Kamrup and Goalpara. The damage by floods was greatest in the Barpeta subdivision, where, in addition to the destruction of crops, the loss of live-stock was particularly heavy. The Brahmaputra at Gauhati reached on the 26th and 27th July the highest flood point recorded for 22 years, the gauge reading being 30·65 feet above zero.

Storms and floods.

The lowest point registered was 3·25 below zero on 21st and 22nd March 1901. The lowest point registered in the preceding ten years was 3·90 below zero, which occurred on the 20th and 21st February 1890.

A storm of remarkable severity passed through the Goalpara district on the 18th April. Houses were blown down, trees uprooted, and people carried to long distances. Four villages suffered from the destructive effects of the storm; 30 persons being killed

and 88 injured. In the sadr subdivision of the Sibsagar district hailstorms occurred on five occasions, but they caused no injury to crops. Some injury from hail was reported from Jorhat.

Harvests.

3. In the Brahmaputra Valley floods injuriously affected the yield of early rice. In Sylhet the outturn of early rice was below the average. Late rice was a fair crop in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur, but failed in Kamrup and Darrang and yielded a poor outturn in Nowgong and Goalpara. The cause of this unfavourable result was the drought at the season of transplanting in August and September. In Sylhet the yield of late rice was estimated to be 8 annas, and in Cachar it was abnormally poor. The mustard crop was also unfavourably affected by the scanty rainfall, except in Lakhimpur, where a satisfactory yield is reported. The jute crop, though damaged by floods, was a fairly good one in the Brahmaputra Valley and yielded an average outturn in the Surma Valley.

Area under crops.

4. The figures below give the total area cropped in the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, excluding the permanently-settled portion of Goalpara, during 1900-1901, as compared with the figures of the preceding year:

Year.	Area under rice.	Area under mustard.	Area under sugarcane.	Area under other crops, including *basti*.	Total cropped area.	Deduct double cropped area.	Net area cropped.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1899-1900 ...	1,275,326	111,898	16,647	498,387	1,897,258	140,760	1,756,498
1900-1901 ...	1,235,190	119,306	17,937	493,900	1,866,333	134,687	1,731,646

Owing to the unfavourable character of the season, the area under rice and miscellaneous crops decreased considerably.

The area under mustard and sugarcane, on the other hand, shows an increase. After the bad harvest of the staple crop—rice—an endeavour was made to supplement the year's outturn by planting additional areas with cold-weather crops.

The cultivation of sugarcane is gradually extending in the five upper districts of the Valley.

The following statement compares the areas under crops in the cadastrally-surveyed portions of the province in the two years 1899-1900 and 1900-1901:

Year.	Area under rice.	Area under mustard.	Area under sugarcane.	Area under other crops, including *basti*.	Total cropped area.	Deduct double cropped area.	Net area cropped.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1899-1900 ...	1,463,104	93,969	18,251	544,636	2,119,960	176,994	1,942,966
1900-1901 ...	1,415,355	102,454	17,947	551,372	2,087,128	168,691	1,918,437

Prices.

5. The average price of common rice was 12 seers per rupee at Silchar, 14 seers at Sylhet, 11¾ seers at Sunamganj, 14¼ seers at Habiganj, 14¾ seers at Karimganj, 13 seers at Maulvi Bazar, 13¼ seers at Dhubri, 13½ seers at Goalpara, 13 seers at Gauhati, 13 seers at Barpeta, 14 seers at Tezpur, 17 seers at Mangaldai, 12 seers at Nowgong, 12 seers at Sibsagar, 10 seers at Jorhat, 11 seers at Golaghat, 11 seers at Dibrugarh, and 11 seers at North

Lakhimpur. As compared with the preceding year, there was a rise in price in almos all the stations of the province, which resulted from the partial failure of crops.

SECTION II.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS FOR ORDINARY CULTIVATION.

Total settled area.

6. Statement II in the Appendix shows the total settled area of each plains district in the province at the close of the year. The total settled area was 7,490,882 acres (permanently-settled 3,930,308 and temporarily-settled 3,560,574 acres), against 7,654,551 (permanently-settled 3,929,678 and temporarily-settled 3,724,873) acres in the preceding year.

Number and area of permanently-settled estates.

7. The number of permanently-settled estates on the revenue roll at the end of the year was 49,879 (*viz.*, 49,860 in Sylhet and 19 in Goalpara), with an aggregate area of 3,930,308 acres, against 49,899 estates with an area of 3,929,678 acres on the 31st March 1900. The decrease in the number of estates was due to the purchase by Government of twenty estates (area 179 acres) in Sylhet at sales for arrears of revenue and their transfer to the class temporarily-settled. The permanently-settled area increased by 630 acres, owing to a decision of the Civil Court by which the area of 3 estates, hitherto treated as temporarily settled, was included in a permanently-settled estate.

Ordinary settlements in Cachar.

8. In Cachar 1,191 applications were presented for settlement of land for ordinary cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules, against 548 in the preceding year; adding to these 692 applications pending at the beginning of the year, the total number of applications for disposal amounted in all to 1,883. Of these, 609 were disposed of, leaving 1,274 pending at the close of the year.

The number of revenue-paying estates increased from 12,189 to 63,928, owing chiefly to the splitting up of joint *mahals* into separate estates according to actual possession at the resettlement of the district.

The total settled area of the sadr and Hailakandi subdivisions of the district amounted to 597,285 acres, against 616,807 acres in 1899-1900. Excluding the area of the forest reserves (442,703 acres), the unsettled area was 542,092 acres. The percentage of settled area to the total area of the district, excluding North Cachar Hills, was 37·75, against 38·99 in the preceding year. The decrease in the percentage and in the settled area is due to the exclusion of the area of fisheries which were formerly settled as land *mahals*.

Ordinary settlements in Sylhet.

9. In Sylhet 966 applications were made during the year, against 102 in 1899-1900, for settlement under Section III of the Settlement Rules of lands lying outside the tracts to which *ilam* settlement operations have been extended and of lands within the Langai-Singla disforested area. Thirty-five applications were pending at the beginning of the year, making a total of 1,001 for disposal. Of these, 420 applications were struck off the register, 216 were made over to the *Ilam* Settlement Officer, periodic settlements were made in 49 cases, and 316 remained pending at the close of the year.

The number of annually-settled estates increased by 627, but the periodically-settled estates decreased by 407, leaving a net increase of 220 estates.

The total settled area of the district, including the permanently-settled estates, was 2,953,991 acres, against 2,998,277 acres in the preceding year. Of this, 542,665 acres only were temporarily settled, against 547,940 in 1899-1900, the decrease being due to the cancelment of settlement of certain periodically-settled estates in Jaintia and to relinquishments.

Ordinary settlements in the Brahmaputra Valley.

10. In the Brahmaputra Valley the number of temporarily-settled revenue-paying estates was 6,89,120, against 701,556 in 1899-1900, and their total area 1,613 603, against 1,634,340 acres, respectively, as detailed in Statement II.

Annually-settled estates assessed at full rates (khiraj).—The number of these estates decreased from 430,585 in 1899-1900 to 425,209 during the year and their area from 728,681 acres to 726,012 acres.

The districts of Kamrup and Nowgong and the subdivision of Mangaldai in Darrang show a considerable falling off in both revenue and area under cultivation, and there is

also a small decrease in the Eastern Duars. The Kamrup figures, however, still show a substantial improvement over those for 98-1899. Increases owing to extension of cultivation in the prosperous districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur and in the sadr subdivision of Darrang almost counterbalance losses elsewhere. The decrease in Lower and Central Assam is due to floods and to the prevalence of cholera, *kalá-ázár*, and cattle-disease.

Periodically-settled estates assessed at full rates.—The number of estates of this class fell from 270,967 to 263,911, with a corresponding decrease of 18,068 acres in area.

The decrease in Kamrup is very great, the revenue demand showing a falling off of Rs. 36,493, which, coming after a decrease of Rs. 23,997 in the previous year, is specially serious. The Deputy Commissioner remarks:— "The shrinking of the settled area and revenue, which apparently almost ceased in 1899-1900, has commenced again in 1900-1901 on a large scale in both subdivisions. Among other causes, it is attributed to the final abandonment of damaged lands, which the raiyats have hitherto retained in hopes of a recovery, which they now despair of. Whatever changes may have been effected by the earthquake in the physical conformation of the country, *i.e.*, whether the soil has sunk or the river beds upheaved, it is certain that considerable areas, both in the sadr and Barpeta, formerly productive of excellent crops, have become liable to inundation by ordinary floods, and annually go and remain under water for a large part of the year." Future years should see gradual recovery in Kamrup, as it may be presumed that the worst effects of the earthquake have now been discounted, and that migration to more favoured parts of the district will result in the gradual replacement of the abandoned areas by lands brought newly under cultivation.

In the Sibsagar district, the Deputy Commissioner attributes the decrease in the sadr and Golaghat subdivisions to Settlement Officers having been unduly cautious in issuing new periodic leases for the short remaining period of the settlement. Instructions were issued by the Commissioner to Deputy Commissioners to check the tendency of the subordinate revenue staff to keep lands under annual lease when they are really held for permanent cultivation.

As detailed in Statement II in the Appendix, the total settled *khiraj* area at the close of the year was 1,613,603 acres, with a revenue demand of Rs. 41,19,920, against 1,634,340 acres, with a revenue of Rs. 41,71,257 at the end of the preceding year.

Only the two districts of Sibsagar and Lakhimpur show any expansion in settled area, and the increases of 7,411 and 6,687 acres, respectively, which they exhibit, are more than swallowed up by the falling off in the three remaining districts. The decrease in Kamrup amounts to 20,245 acres, due to causes already described. In Nowgong, the Deputy Commissioner attributes the falling off of 11,394 acres to the early cessation of the rains, owing to which land which might otherwise have been put under transplanted rice was allowed to lie fallow. The small decrease of 2,134 acres in Darrang was entirely in the Mangaldai subdivision. In the sadr subdivision there was an increase of 1,899 acres. The bad results in Mangaldai were caused by local floods in the Patharughat tahsil and by the prolonged drought in September and October. On the whole, the features of retrogression in Lower and Central Assam and of progress in the two upper districts of the valley and in Tezpur, which have marked the revenue history of the division since the resettlement, have again presented themselves in the year 1900-1901. There is, however, good ground for supposing that, but for the exceptionally early cessation of the rains, much better results would have been obtained in Kamrup and Nowgong, and also in Mangaldai. The drought only very slightly affected the upper districts.

Nisf-khiraj estates, *i.e.*, estates settled at half rates, in the Brahmaputra Valley.

11. The number, area, and revenue of *nisf-khiraj* estates were 2,463, 192,739 acres, and Rs. 1,77,722, against 2,465, 193,208 acres, and Rs. 1,78,271, respectively, in 1899-1900. The decrease of 469 acres in area and Rs. 549 in revenue occurred in the Kamrup district.

Special settlements in the Brahmaputra Valley.

12. There were altogether, in 1900-1901, 446 estates settled on special terms, covering an area of 16,365 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 17,997.

Khiraj (revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying) estates in the towns in the Brahmaputra Valley.

13. In 1900-1901 there were in all 4,904 estates, both *khiraj* (full revenue-paying) and *nisf-khiraj* (half revenue-paying), in the several towns of the Brahmaputra Valley, covering an area of 4,872 acres and paying a revenue of Rs. 39,015.

14. The table below gives the average area and revenue of each class of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley for the past seven years.

Average area and revenue of estates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

Year.	*Khiraj*, annual.		*Khiraj*, periodic		Special tenures.		*Nisf-khiraj*.		Waste land grants.	
	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.	Average revenue per acre.	Average area per estate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.
1894-95	2 3 7	1·95	2 12 7	3·60	2 2 1	4·74	0 14 9	78·81	0 7 6	316·93
1895-96	2 4 1	1·86	2 12 11	3·48	1 2 8	16·16	0 14 9	78·67	0 7 2	328·41
1896-97	2 4 1	1·82	2 12 9	8·52	0 9 0	35·45	0 14 9	78·60	0 7 2	327·70
1897-98	2 3 10	1·74	2 12 5	3·36	1 2 4	34·61	0 14 9	78·54	0 7 8	324·01
1898-99	2 4 6	1·65	2 12 7	3·31	1 0 2	37·51	0 14 10	78·52	0 8 6	328·63
1899-1900	2 4 11	1·69	2 12 6	3·29	1 1 7	36·85	0 14 10	78·13	0 9 10	327·26
1900-1901	2 5 0	1·71	2 3 6	3·32	1 1 7	36·69	0 14 10	78·00	0 10 4	323·78

15. The area of the different classes of land—*basti*, *rupit*, and *faringati*—assessed at full and half rates was 186,567, 1,046,575, and 518,537 acres, respectively, against 183,130, 1,074,513, and 560,801 acres in the preceding year. The proportions of the three classes of ordinary cultivation in each district were :

Classification of land assessed at full and half rates in the Brahmaputra Valley.

—	Goalpara (Eastern Duars).	Kamrup.	Darrang.	Nowgong.	Sibsagar.	Lakhimpur.	Total.
Basti (per cent.) ...	10·23	11·39	10·19	11·17	10·43	9·52	10·65
Rupit („) ...	68·27	61·65	69·93	55·42	56·15	51·20	59·75
Faringati („) ...	21·49	26·95	19·88	33·40	33·42	39·28	29·60

The proportions in the division for the past five years are given below :

—	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
Basti ...	9·66	9·77	10·03	10·07	10·65
Rupit ...	56·36	56·26	57·78	59·09	59·75
Faringati ...	33·96	33·97	32·17	30·84	29·60

These figures point to a tendency for the higher classes of land to increase at the expense of *faringati*. In the margin are shown the respective percentages of the various classes of land at intervals of five years since the year 1885-86.

	Basti.	*Rupit*.	*Faringati*.
1885-86 ...	7·78	50·21	42·01
1890-91 ...	9·23	54·01	36·75
1895-96 ...	9·66	56·86	33·46
1900-1901 ...	10·65	59·75	29·60

16. Details of area resigned in each district of the Brahmaputra Valley (exclusive of town land) are given in Statement III in the Appendix. The resignations of 1899-1900 affected the settlement of 1900-1901. The resignations of 1900-1901 will affect the settlement of 1901-1902.

Relinquishments in the Brahmaputra Valley.

During the year relinquishments occurred in 12·04 per cent. of the *khiraj* estates settled annually and decennially, against 11·84 per cent. in the preceding year. The proportion of resignations was 9·43 per cent. and 16·18 per cent., respectively, in 1898-99 and 1897-98. The area resigned during the year was 9·43 per cent. of the settled *khiraj* area, against 9·39 per cent. in 1899-1900 and 7·77, 11·70, and 10·59 per cent. in the three preceding years, respectively. In Nowgong and Darrang the percentages, 19·52 and 10·11, are much higher than the average, but in Kamrup, from which district, owing to floods and failure of crops from the early cessation of the rains, resignations might have been expected to be on an unusually large scale, the percentage, with the exception of that for 1898-99, is the lowest of the 15 years. In both Sibsagar and Dibrugarh relinquishments of the periodically-settled lands were less than 1 per cent. of the settled area. In Nowgong the percentage was 5·15—an improvement on the previous year's figure, 7·62. In Darrang, owing to the heavy relinquishments due to *kalá-ázár*, cholera, and the unfavourable season, the percentage was as high as 8·35, against 1·47 in Tezpur.

17. The following statement shows the *khiraj* settled area in each of the five upper Brahmaputra Valley districts, excluding lands held by tea planters, for each year from 1892-93, the year preceding the last settlement :

Khiraj (full revenue-paying) settled area in the five upper Brahmaputra Valley districts.

District.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Kamrup	481,417	473,945	479,511	472,537	476,008
Darrang	228,127	226,560	227,704	226,997	230,222
Nowgong	275,044	268,162	253,445	246,365	229,433
Sibsagar	389,863	368,387	375,103	381,844	393,518
Lakhimpur	118,115	129,311	123,602	128,467	133,545
Total	1,492,566	1,466,365	1,459,365	1,456,210	1,462,726

District.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	Total waste culturable area available for settlement in 1900-1901.
	7	8	9	10	11
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Kamrup	476,647	429,176	429,354	409,109	1,350,920
Darrang	234,787	237,581	242,145	240,011	1,392,135
Nowgong	209,573	208,843	205,780	194,386	1,633,372
Sibsagar	404,040	414,571	424,649	432,060	1,773,839
Lakhimpur	137,708	154,799	163,307	169,994	1,624,334
Total	1,462,755	1,444,970	1,465,235	1,445,560	7,774,600

18. The total area of the Brahmaputra Valley districts is 15,044,949 acres, of which 4,021,925 acres are settled. Including the permanently-settled estates of the Goalpara district, the proportion borne by the settled area to the total area of the valley in 1900-1901 was 26·73. The percentage of the total area settled, omitting the permanently-settled estates, for the past ten years is given below :

Proportion of settled area in the Brahmaputra Valley.

Year.	Percentage.
1891-92	16·92
1892-93	17·22
1893-94	17·12
1894-95	17·19
1895-96	18·40
1896-97	18·40
1897-98	18·54
1898-99	18·67
1899-1900	18·90
1900-1901	16·64

SECTION III.

CURRENT SETTLEMENTS OF WASTE LAND FOR SPECIAL CULTIVATION.

Scope of the section.

19. This section deals only with waste lands taken up for special cultivation either under the Settlement Rules now in force or under former rules that have been from time to time in force in the province.

Besides the applications for thirty-year leases of waste land under Section I of the Settlement Rules, application is frequently made under Sections II and III of the Rules for settlement of land for special cultivation on ordinary terms.

Waste land taken up for tea planting up to the end of 1900-1901.

20. The number of estates taken up in the province under different tenures for the cultivation of tea at the close of the year was 4,188, covering an area of 1,148,306 acres, against 4,150 grants, with an area of 1,095,458 acres.

Applications under Section I of the Settlement Rules.

21. At the beginning of the year, 74 applications under Section I of the Settlement Rules were pending from previous years, and 35 new applications were received during the year, making a total of 109 cases for disposal, against 133 cases in the preceding year. Of these, 31 applications were rejected or withdrawn, 36 estates, with an area of 9,406 acres, were settled, and 42 cases remained pending at the close of the year. The last figure includes applications for lands which had been advertised for sale before the end of the year, and are therefore in the final stage of settlement. The number of applications received shows an increase of 15 over that of 1899-1900, mainly in the sadr subdivision of the Lakhimpur district. This increase, in spite of the depression of the tea industry, is ascribed to speculation in land in the tract shortly to be opened out by the Assam-Bengal Railway.

Total number of settlements under Thirty-year Lease Rules.

22. The total number of thirty-year lease grants settled at the close of the year was 931, covering an area of 345,146 acres, against 898 grants, with an area of 337,834 acres, at the end of 1899-1900.

Auction price realised by the sale of leases.

23. As usual there was no competition at the auction sales of waste lands during the year under report, and the lands were sold at the upset price of Re. 1 per acre.

Resignation and resumptions.

24. In the Brahmaputra Valley five waste land grants, two in Nowgong and one each in Darrang, Sibsagar, and Goalpara, covering an area of 2,245 acres, were resigned or had their settlements annulled during the year. In Sylhet 2 grants were relinquished, but, pending enquiry, the relinquishments were not sanctioned during the year.

Price of timber.

25. The following statement shows the demand and collections on account of timber on waste lands settled during the year:

District.	Demand.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.	
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sylhet	2,428	17,057	2,428	17,057	...	...	...
Darrang	1,563	...	2,041*	...	...	...	...
Sibsagar	41,309	3,425	15,931	473	10,019†	15,359	2,952
Lakhimpur	3,282	...	3,274	...	8†	...	...
Total	48,582	20,482	23,674	17,530	10,027†	15,359	2,952

* Includes Rs. 477-10, timber tax on a grant advertised for sale before the close of the year.
† Current only.

As compared with the previous year, there was an increase in both the current demand and the collections under this head, while the balance outstanding at the end of the year decreased by Rs. 2,171.

Settlement of waste lands for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules in Cachar.

26. In Cachar, 5 applications were received during the year for land for tea cultivation under Section III of the Settlement Rules which, with the 3 applications pending at the beginning of the year, made 8 applications for disposal. Of these, 2 were disposed of, covering an area of 35 acres, with a revenue demand of Rs. 64.

27. In Sylhet 2 applications were received during the year for settlement of land (intended for special cultivation) under Section III of the Settlement Rules in the Langai-Singla disforested tract, and 18 cases were pending from the preceding year. Of these, 1 was withdrawn, in 1 a lease for an area of 45 acres was issued, and in 3 cases leases are awaiting acceptance by the applicants.

Waste land taken up in Sylhet under Section III of the Settlement Rules.

28. The number of applications filed during the year for land for special cultivation under Section II of the Settlement Rules in the Brahmaputra Valley was 50, *viz.*, 48 for periodic and 2 for annual leases. Leases were issued in 128 cases, covering an area of 2,546 acres, with a revenue demand of Rs. 5,664. There were 2,027 leases existing at the end of the year, with an area of 104,309 acres and a revenue of Rs. 2,31,411. There was an increase of 1,292 acres in the area and of Rs. 2,677 in the revenue demand of this class of estates.

Waste land taken up under Section II in the Brahmaputra Valley.

29. There was no change in the number, area, and revenue of grants under the Rules of 1838 and 1854. Details of these grants are given in Statement II in the Appendix.

Grants under the Rules of 1838 and 1854.

30. The number of old rule grants commuted to fee-simple remained the same as in 1899-1900 (*viz.*, 268), but their area decreased from 287,949 to 287,500 acres, the decrease of 449 acres being due to a decision of the civil court declaring the area in question to be part of a permanently-settled estate in Sylhet. The revenue of these estates at the time of commutation amounted to Rs. 11,077 and the price paid for commutation to Rs. 10,34,976.

Commutation of Old Rule grants to fee-simple.

31. The number and area of fee-simple grants remained the same as in the preceding year, the total number being 313, covering an area of 190,701 acres. The aggregate price originally realised by the sale of these lands amounted to Rs. 9,99,426.

Fee-simple grants.

SECTION IV.

COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE.

32. The current land revenue demand of the province rose from Rs. 57,50,308 in 1899-1900 to Rs. 58,01,384 in 1900-1901, showing an increase of Rs. 51,076, or 0·9 per cent., as detailed in Statement IV in the Appendix. The increase was mainly brought out by the resettlement of the Cachar district, which was effected from the 1st April 1900.

Current demand.

33. In Cachar the increase amounted to Rs. 91,503. In Sylhet there was a slight decrease of Rs. 188, of which the permanently-settled estates account for Rs. 20 and the temporarily-settled estates for Rs. 168, as detailed below :

Explanation of increase and decrease.

Class of estates.	Current demand.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1899-1900.	1900-1901.		
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Permanently-settled estates	3,65,323	3,65,303	...	20
II.—Temporarily-settled estates—				
(*a*) Jaintia	1,80,483	1,78,933	...	1,550
(*b*) Hakaluki	1,312	1,201	...	111
(*c*) Pratabgarh	50,413	49,947	...	466
(*d*) Other parganas	1,86,381	1,88,340	1,959	...
Total II	4,18,589	4,18,421	1,959	2,127
Grand total	7,83,912	7,83,724	1,959	2,147
Net decrease	...	...	— 188	

The decrease in Jaintia, Hakaluki, and Pratapgarh was due to causes which led to the decrease in the number of periodically-settled estates, and was counterbalanced partly by an increase in other parganas resulting from the progressive assessment of waste land grants.

In the Brahmaputra Valley the revenue demand fell off from Rs. 45,74,614 in 1899-1900 to Rs. 45,35,746 during the year. In Sibsagar and Lakhimpur there was an increase in the revenue demand, due to extensions of cultivation and progressive assessment of waste land grants. The other districts all show a decrease, chiefly in the demand assessed on the *khiraj* area, due to causes explained in paragraph 10.

Arrear demands.

34. The arrear demand on 1st April 1900 was Rs. 4,80,657; subsequent correction increased this figure to Rs. 5,05,703. Kamrup alone accounts for the large addition of Rs. 23,738, for which no explanation has been furnished, excepting that it includes back revenue on land which had escaped assessment in the previous year.

Total demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

35. The total demand, collections, remissions, and balances are given in detail in Statement IV in the Appendix. The total demand, including corrected arrears, was Rs. 63,07,087. Of this amount, Rs. 56,96,895, or 90·33 per cent., were realised during the year, against 92·16 per cent. in the preceding year; Rs. 63,854, or 1·01 per cent., were remitted, against 0·15 per cent. in 1899-1900, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,46,338, or 8·66 per cent. of the total demand outstanding at the close of the year. The percentage of total collections to the current demand of the year was 98·19, against 100·18 in 1899-1900. The current demand of the year was Rs. 58,01,384, of which Rs. 53,90,218, or 92·91 per cent., were realised; of the arrear demand of Rs. 5,05,703, Rs. 3,06,677, or 60·64 per cent., were realised.

In Cachar, out of a total demand of Rs. 4,65,931, Rs. 4,00,120, or 85·85 per cent., only were realised, leaving a large balance of Rs. 65,811, or 14·12 per cent., outstanding at the close of the year. The increase in the outstanding balance was due partly to the failure of crops in certain parts of the district, but mainly to the fact that the *mirasdars* for some reason or other were under the impression that an extension of time for payment of revenue would be granted, and in consequence failed to pay by the due dates. Certain errors in the resettlement *pattas* issued account also for non-payment of revenue until the necessary corrections were made, and the delay in the issue of the *pattas* of tea lands also caused delay in taking steps for the realisation of the demand assessed thereon.

In Sylhet, of the total demand of Rs. 8,88,091, a sum of Rs. 7,76,800, or 87·47 per cent., was realised, Rs. 10,343, or 1·16 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 1,00,948, or 11·37 per cent., remained outstanding on the 31st March 1901. The total demand of the permanently-settled estates amounted to Rs. 3,65,734 and the collections to Rs. 3,65,100, or 99·83 per cent. In the temporarily-settled estates, out of a total demand of Rs. 5,22,357, Rs. 4,11,700, or 78·82 per cent., were collected, Rs. 10,343, or 1·98 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 1,00,314, or 19·20 per cent., left unrealised. Of the outstanding balance, Jaintia tahsils alone were responsible for Rs. 77,335, a greater part of which remained unrealised, owing to the fact that coercive measures could not be taken till after the close of the year for the realisation of the arrears on account of the last February *kist*.

In the Brahmaputra Valley, of the total demand of Rs. 49,20,573, inclusive of arrears, Rs. 44,91,683, or 91·28 per cent., were collected before the close of the year. In 1899-1900 the collections were 92·59 per cent. of the demand. The balance outstanding at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 3,75,379, or 7·66 per cent. of the total demand, against Rs. 3,59,683, or 7·32 per cent., at the end of 1899-1900. Of this, Rs. 42,951, towards which Nowgong contributes Rs. 35,114, are reported as doubtful or irrecoverable.

The following remarks are reproduced from the Commissioner's Divisional Report:

Proportionately to total demand, the percentage of balances was highest in Nowgong, being 10·40, but Kamrup and Lakhimpur, with percentages of 9·67 and 9·15, respectively, run it close. No further explanation of the poor results in *Kamrup* and *Nowgong* is necessary than the unfavourable season following on epidemics of cholera and *kalá-ázár*, and in Kamrup on the calamitous effects of the earthquake. That arrears should be so heavy in Lakhimpur, which enjoyed a prosperous season on the whole, is, however, unsatisfactory. The Dibrugarh tahsil is mainly responsible for the large balance in this district. A change of tahsildars effected during the year led to no improvement, and arrears went on accumulating. The balance due at this tahsil was Rs. 38,403 at the close of the year, of which Rs. 27,112 was for current arrears. The number of foreigners from whom revenue has to be collected in this tahsil is said to make the work particularly difficult. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Gruning, is doing his best to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of affairs, and with a fresh change of tahsildar it is hoped a speedy improvement will be effected.

Although in Sibsagar the percentage of areas, 5·66, is not specially high, the absolute amount outstanding, Rs. 84,068, is large. The Golaghat tahsils of Golaghat and Athgaon are said to be chiefly to blame. Certain false charges against the Golaghat tahsildar led to a suspension for some time of collection work in that tahsil, and the crops in both tahsils suffered to some extent from drought. It is satisfactory to note that the arrears in Namtidol tahsil from Rs. 34,755, outstanding on 1st April 1900, were reduced to Rs. 13,364 at close of the year under review.

In Darrang, the percentage of arrears, 5·58, was lowest, if Goalpara be excluded. The poor harvest in consequence of the drought is given as the reason for its being so high as even this figure. The employment of the collecting staff on census work is also said to have retarded collections, and I have no doubt this was a cause which has had an appreciable effect in all the districts.

The balance outstanding at the close of the year had been reduced by the 1st September 1901 to Rs. 2,57,809 for the whole province, the details of which are given below :

	Rs.
Cachar	5,157
Sylhet	39,872
Goalpara	19
Kamrup	92,432
Darrang	18,447
Nowgong	46,112
Sibsagar	32,889
Lakhimpur	20,635
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	522
Garo Hills	1,723
Total	2,57,809

Forecast *versus* demand.

36. In the forecast of revenue for the six years ending 1904-1905 submitted to the Government of India, the demand for the year under report was estimated at Rs. 58,84,796. The actual current demand amounted to Rs. 58,01,384. The demand would have nearly reached the forecast but for the decrease in revenue which occurred in Kamrup, Darrang, and Nowgong, as already explained.

Remissions.

37. Remissions were allowed to the extent of Rs. 63,854, against Rs. 9,078 in the preceding year. In Sylhet Rs. 10,343 were remitted, mainly on account of irrecoverable arrears in the Jaintia parganas. In the Brahmaputra Valley Rs. 53,511 were remitted, *viz.*, Rs. 3,680 in Kamrup, Rs. 3,608 in Darrang, Rs. 38,613 in Nowgong, Rs. 7,533 in Sibsagar, and Rs. 77 in Lakhimpur. The distressed condition of many families which have in past years lost their working members from *kalá-ázár* explains the large remissions found necessary in Nowgong. Remissions were not as heavy as might have been expected in Kamrup.

Charges for collection of Government revenue.

(*a*) Surma Valley.

38. The cost of collection of Government revenue, including land revenue miscellaneous land revenue, and local rates in tahsils in Cachar amounted to Rs. 11,999, or 2·75 per cent. of the total collections of Rs. 4,36,607, against 2·80 per cent. in 1899-1900. In Sylhet the cost of total collections (Rs. 10,64,497) amounted to Rs. 23,676, or 2·22 per cent., against 2·24 per cent. in the preceding year. Taking both the districts together, the percentage of cost to amounts collected was 2·38, against 2·24 in the preceding year.

(*b*) Brahmaputra Valley.

In the Brahmaputra Valley the total amount collected under the tahsildari system was Rs. 25,29,163, at a cost of Rs. 57,276, or 2·19 per cent., against Rs. 26,07,443 collected in 1899-1900 at a cost of Rs. 62,938, or 2·26 per cent. Under the mauzadari system Rs. 17,35,557 were collected at a cost of Rs. 79,322, or 4·24 per cent., against Rs. 16,35,933 collected in the preceding year at a cost of Rs. 76,694, or 4·38 per cent. Following the practice of previous years, only half the salary of tahsildars and their establishments and of mauzadars and mandals have been debited to collection charges, while the commission of 30 per cent. paid to the Beltola mauzadar, which is in fact a pension, has been omitted.

On the whole, there was a slight decrease in the charges on collections by tahsildars; the percentage of charges to collections by mauzadars also fell off slightly, although there was a slight increase in the amount of charges, which occurred mainly in the Sibsagar district, due to increase in the amount collected.

The following statement shows the balances outstanding in tahsils and mauzas in the Brahmaputra Valley at the end of the year, as well as at the end of 1899-1900:

District.	Outstanding balance on 1st April 1900.		Outstanding balance on 1st April 1901.			
			In tahsils.		In mauzas.	
	In tahsils.	In mauzas.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Goalpara	...	757	23	...	...	...
Kamrup	59,569	2,874	80,715	18,554	9,000	19,721
Darrang	26,677	1,239	36,801	4,644	953	6
Nowgong	1,04,328	13,972	21,333	30,081	13,121	5,033
Sibsagar	82,243	30,646	45,495	13,395	14,562	8,616
Lakhimpur	25,798	11,680	26,782	11,291	15,253	...
Total	2,98,615	61,168	2,11,149	77,965	52,889	33,376
			2,89,114		86,265	

The outstanding balance was thus reduced from Rs. 2,98,615 to Rs. 2,89,114 in tahsils, but was increased from Rs. 61,168 to Rs. 86,265 in the case of mauzas.

Collection establishment in the Brahmaputra Valley.

39. There was no change in the number of tahsildars, *viz.*, 27. The number of mauzadars increased from 118 to 126, due to the splitting up of mauzas found to be too large for one man to manage conveniently and the separation of certain mauzas from tahsils, which were too large to be efficiently managed by one tahsildar, and their formation into independent mauzas under mauzadars. The average area of each tahsil for the whole valley was 221·50 and of each mauza 117·58 square miles. The number of tahsildars has been constant for the past five years, but the number of mauzadars was 98 in 1896-97 and 104, 117, 118, and 126 in the four following years, respectively.

Alienation of land revenue.

40. The statement in Appendix VIII gives details of the amount of land revenue assigned or alienated and the distribution of the alienation. The statement relates only to tracts which are temporarily settled, and clearance grants, redeemed grants, or grants under Waste Land Rules, held either in perpetuity or for a period on favourable terms, have been excluded. The total area of which revenue has been partly or wholly assigned or alienated is 286,151 acres. The estimated land revenue of this area, calculated at the ordinary rates, amounts to Rs. 4,59,830, the revenue actually paid was Rs. 1,78,221, and the amount of alienation or assignment granted came to Rs. 2,81,609, Rs. 2,815 for the maintenance of public servants, and the balance, Rs. 2,78,794, on other grounds.

SECTION V.

MISCELLANEOUS LAND REVENUE.

Current demand of miscellaneous land revenue.

41. Statement V in the Appendix shows the demand, collections, remissions, and balances of miscellaneous land revenue in each district. The total revenue demand of the year was Rs. 4,17,215, against Rs. 4,19,355 in the preceding year, showing a net decrease of Rs. 2,140, which occurred under all heads, except fisheries, house-tax, lime-quarries, and sale of waste land leases.

Explanation of increase and decrease.

42. *Elephants.*—The license fees and royalty fell from Rs. 12,955 and Rs. 16,350 to Rs. 12,745 and Rs. 10,850, respectively, showing a total decrease of Rs. 5,710, or 19·48 per cent. The decrease occurred in all districts, except Darrang, and is mainly

due to the elephant *mahals* in Nowgong, Sibsagar, the Naga Hills and the Jaintia Hills, and on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra in Kamrup having been made over to the Khedda Department.

Fisheries (*increase Rs.* 744).—The demand amounted to Rs. 1,56,630, against Rs. 1,55,886 in 1899-1900. Of the increase, Sylhet accounts for Rs. 205 and the hill districts Rs. 597. In the Brahmaputra Valley there was an improvement of Rs. 3,464 in Kamrup and smaller increases in Darrang and Goalpara, but the demand in Sibsagar fell from Rs. 37,149 to Rs. 34,480, a decrease of Rs. 2,669, due, it is said, to some disease which occurred among the fish in 1899-1900. The losses thereby incurred deterred the lessees of that year from again competing at the auction sales of fishery leases.

Poll-tax (*decrease Rs.* 435).—This is levied in the district of Lakhimpur on male persons belonging to hill and frontier tribes, who cultivate land, and in Sylhet on certain Tipperah *punjis*. The decrease was due to the gradual substitution of land revenue for poll-tax in Lakhimpur.

House-tax (*increase Rs.* 2,068).—The demand rose from Rs. 1,49,988 to Rs. 1,52,056. The increase occurred in all districts where house-tax is paid, except Nowgong and the Naga Hills, in which there was a slight decrease.

Lime-quarries (*increase Rs.* 2,823)—Lime-quarries are worked only in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills. The increase of royalty is apparent only, being due to a change in time at which certain payments fall due.

Coal mines and mineral oil (*decrease Rs.* 2,917).—The royalty realised on coal diminished owing to decreased outturn.

Sale of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue (*increase Rs.* 2,413).—The increase from Rs. 7,130 to Rs. 9,543 was due to a larger area of land having been sold for special cultivation at the usual upset price of Re. 1 per acre.

Survey fees (*decrease Rs.* 509).—In the Brahmaputra Valley receipts under this head fell from Rs. 4,035 to Rs. 3,445, owing to a decrease in the survey fees paid on applications for waste land for special cultivation.

Demand, collections, and balances.

43. The arrear demand at the close of 1899-1900 was reported to be Rs. 23,061, but the figure has since been corrected to Rs. 27,271 in consequence of further enquiries made after the 1st April 1900. The total demand on account of miscellaneous land revenue, including arrears, was Rs. 4,44,486, of which Rs. 4,11,668, or 92·62 per cent., was realised, Rs. 3,736, or 0·84 per cent., remitted, and Rs. 29,082, or 6·54 per cent., remained outstanding at the close of the year. The current demand was Rs. 4,17,215, of which Rs. 3,93,337, or 94·27 per cent., was realised. Of the arrear demand, an amount of Rs. 18,331 was realised during the year. The proportion of the total collection (current and arrear) to the current demand was 98·67 per cent.

The outstanding balance was reduced by the 1st September 1901 to Rs. 7,969.

Remissions.

44. The remissions granted during the year amounted to Rs. 3,736. Of this amount, Rs. 1,298 were remitted in Sylhet on account of fishery revenue, owing to the defaulters having no property, and in consideration of losses sustained by the lessees. Rupees 2,035 were remitted in Sibsagar, Rs. 337 in Kamrup, and Rs. 9 in Darrang under Fishery, and Rs. 57 in Nowgong under House-tax.

SECTION VI.

LOCAL RATES.

Assessment.

45. Local rates were assessed under the Assam Local Rates Regulation on the different descriptions of landed property in the plains districts in the same manner as in previous years.

The current demand of the year amounted to Rs. 6,68,610, against Rs. 6,63,133 in 1899-1900, showing an increase of Rs. 5,477, or 0·83 per cent., which occurred chiefly in Cachar. There were increases also in the districts of Goalpara, Sibsagar, and Lakhimpur, but these were more than counterbalanced by decreases in Kamrup and Nowgong. The increase in the land revenue demand, (0·89 per cent.) accounts for the increase under local rates, which vary with the land revenue. The table below shows

the demand assessed for the year under review on estates of different descriptions in each district:

District.	Permanently-settled estates.	Temporarily-settled estates.	Waste land grants.	Revenue-free estates.	Total.	Increase + or decrease — as compared with the demand for 1899-1900.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	...	28,165	8,998	127	37,290	+ 6,241
Sylhet	1,97,483	19,074	5,993	3,623	2,26,173	+ 35
Goalpara	60,727	6,403	11	1,689	68,830	+ 1,294
Kamrup	...	93,957	1,005	6,164	1,01,126	— 3,087
Darrang	...	44,614	6,212	1,274	52,100	— 150
Nowgong	...	33,241	3,167	315	36,723	— 1,809
Sibsagar	...	82,591	16,216	2,278	1,01,085	+ 1,453
Lakhimpur	...	32,214	12,501	568	45,283	+ 1,500
Total	2,58,210	3,40,259	54,103	16,038	6,68,610	+ 5,477

Demand, collections, remissions, and balances.

46. The total demand, including the arrear at the close of 1899-1900, was Rs. 7,03,198, of which Rs. 6,42,533, or 91·37 per cent., were collected, Rs. 3,996, or 0·57 per cent., were remitted, and Rs. 56,669, or 8·06 per cent. (*viz.*, Rs. 45,895 on account of current and Rs. 10,774 on account of arrear demand) remained outstanding at the end of the year. Of the unrealised balance, Rs. 22,188 have been realised since the close of the year, Rs. 586 have been remitted, and Rs. 1,361 have been found irrecoverable. The balance is in course of realisation.

SECTION VII.

PROCESSES FOR THE RECOVERY OF ARREARS OF REVENUE.

Laws and Rules under which arrears of revenue are realised.

47. There was no change in the procedure followed in realising revenue.

Working of the Sale Law in Sylhet.

48. The number of estates that fell into arrear in the Sylhet district was 36,416 (*viz.*, permanently-settled 13,770, temporarily-settled 22,466, and revenue-free 180) and the amount of arrear Rs. 4,17,452 (namely, land revenue Rs. 3,20,826 and local rates Rs. 96,626). The number of permanently-settled estates which fell into arrears during the year decreased by 1,627, but the number of estates sold increased from 167 to 230.

The number of temporarily-settled estates in arrears also decreased by 3,625. Of the 22,466 defaulting estates, the arrears of 13,105 were paid up before the issue of any coercive processes, including 5,178 estates, of which the arrears were paid up just after the issue of the notice of demand. No notice of demand was issued against 4,181 estates, the arrear in each case being less than 4 annas, and no steps could be taken before the close of the year in respect of 11,261 estates, which were in arrear for the February instalment of 1901. Coercive processes were issued in 4,401 cases, and 649 estates were exempted from sale for want of adequate bids.

The number of revenue-free estates defaulting in the payment of local rates was 180, against 218 in 1899-1900: sixteen of these estates were sold during the year and fetched Rs. 284, the local rates assessed on them being Rs. 9.

Results of applications for annulment of sales in Sylhet.

49. There were 114 applications for annulment of sales for disposal (36 pending from previous year and 78 filed during the year). In 31 cases the sales were cancelled, in 25 the appeals were rejected or withdrawn, and 58 remained pending at the close of the year.

Separate accounts.

50. The number of applications presented during the year for separate accounts was 869, and there were 403 applications pending from 1899-1900, making a total of 1,272. In 782 of these cases separate accounts were granted, 42 applications were rejected, and 448 remained pending on the 31st March 1901.

Recovery of arrears of land revenue in Cachar.

51. In Cachar the number of estates in arrear rose to 25,682, from 7,552 in 1899-1900, but in 16,258 cases the arrears were paid up before the issue of any coercive processes. Against a large number of estates, which fell into arrears in the March *kist* of 1901, no steps for the realisation of the arrears could be taken before the close of the year. Fifteen estates were proclaimed for sale, but in respect of 5 of these the arrears were paid up after the issue of the proclamation, and there were no bids for 8 estates put up to auction. The two estates sold fetched an aggregate price of Rs. 30, their arrear demand being Rs. 27.

Working of the Sale Law in Goalpara.

52. The land revenue and local rates due on the permanently-settled estates in the Goalpara district were punctually paid in, and there was no necessity for the issue of coercive processes against these estates.

Working of the process of demand system in the Brahmaputra Valley.

53. In the Brahmaputra Valley notices of demand were issued on the owners of 47,706 estates, against 48,557 in the preceding year. There was thus a slight decrease in the number of these notices. There was a corresponding decrease in the number of defaulting estates attached and the number of notices of sale issued, which fell off from 1,203 and 2,363 in 1899-1900 to 1,194 and 2,089, respectively, during the year under report; but the number of cases in which moveable property was attached, and in which estates were sold, rose from 11,043 and 212 to 12,178 and 259, respectively. The number of cases in which moveable property was actually sold after attachment was 459, against 493. There was a large increase in the number of attachments of moveable property, issued in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur, while sales of estates were most numerous in Darrang (86) and Sibsagar (64).

Comparison with previous years.

54. The two statements below compare the number of notices of demand issued and the number of estates sold for arrears of revenue in the Brahmaputra Valley in each of the past four years:

Notices of demand.

Years.	Number.	Percentage on the total number of estates.
1897-98	35,270	5·12
1898-99	50,138	7·11
1899-1900	48,557	6·82
1900-1901	47,706	6·83

Estates sold for arrears of revenue.

Subdivision.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.
1	2	3	4	5
Dhubri	...	...	...	4
Barpeta	18	2	4	5
Gauhati	52	86	26	48
Mangaldai	4	5	13	73
Tezpur	11	10	22	13
Nowgong	8	26	18	31
Golaghat	21	46	28	30
Jorhat	10	15	18	14
Sibsagar	17	90	33	20
North Lakhimpur	3	11	4	7
Dibrugarh	22	8	46	14
Total	166	299	212	259

Annulment of settlements in the Brahmaputra Valley.

55. In all, the settlement of 1,042 estates, *viz.*, 226 in Kamrup, 217 in Darrang, 69 in Nowgong, 529 in Sibsagar, and 1 in Lakhimpur, was annulled during the year.

SECTION VIII.

REVISION OF SETTLEMENTS.

Cachar settlement.

56. Effect was given to the new settlement of the Cachar district for a term of 15 years from the 1st April 1900, and the new *pattas* were distributed during the year. The Settlement Officer's final report on the resettlement of the district was also received and orders passed thereon.

57. The *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates in Sylhet surveyed during the seasons 1898-99 and 1899-1900 were classified during the year. The report of the Settlement Officer, containing his proposals as to the rates to be assessed on the resettlement of the area, was received and the rates, as provisionally approved by the Chief Commissioner, were published in the gazette. Sufficient time having been allowed for filing objections, the rates were submitted to and sanctioned by the Government of India towards the close of the year. It has been decided that the new settlement should take effect from the 1st April 1902, and should be concluded for a term of 20 years.

Resettlement of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates in Sylhet.

58. The operations undertaken by the Provincial Survey Detachment during the year and the area completed under each head are given below :

Survey by professional agency.

	Square miles.
Surma Valley—Sylhet district—	
1. Traverse survey of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates, etc., with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency ...	21·30
2. Traverse survey of the disforested portion of the Langai-Singla reserve, with a view to its cadastral survey by local agency ...	20·08
3. Traverse and boundary survey of tea grants	1·91
	43·29
Brahmaputra Valley—	
4. Traverse survey of areas with a view to their cadastral survey by local agency—	
Darrang	8·44
5. Traverse survey of areas already surveyed by local agency—	
Nowgong	30·88
Sibsagar	114·00
	144·88
Brahmaputra Valley—	
6. Traverse and boundary survey of tea grants—	
Darrang	7·06
Nowgong	3·12
	10·18
7. Traverse and topographical survey of areas omitted from cadastral survey—	
Lakhimpur	28·65
Total Brahmaputra Valley	192·15
Grand total	235·44

Besides this, the Survey detachment surveyed and relaid the following length of boundary lines during the year :

	Linear miles.
Sylhet	4·00
Goalpara	23·55
Khasi and Jaintia Hills	7·76
Total	35·31

59. In Sylhet a plane-table traverse of an area of 10·21 square miles, comprising certain detached blocks of *ilam* and other temporarily-settled estates, too small for professional traverse, was carried out by local agency.

Traverse survey by local agency.

An area of 0·58 square miles was also similarly traversed during the year in the Kamrup district.

Cadastral survey.

60. A cadastral survey was carried out during the year by local agency in (1) Kamrup on the basis of traverse plots prepared by local agency, and (2) Sylhet partly on the basis of plots furnished by the Survey Detachment and partly on those prepared by local agency.

(1) In Kamrup an area of 0·58 square miles was surveyed cadastrally, the survey resulting in an increase in cultivated area of 86 *bighas* and in annual revenue of Rs. 68, obtained at a cost of Rs. 9 only.

(2) The cadastral survey of an area of 32·60 square miles of temporarily-settled estates and unsettled lands (including 5·71 square miles of the disforested area in the Langai-Singla forest reserve) was carried out in Sylhet. This, with the area, 271·74 square miles, surveyed up to the close of the season 1899-1900, brings the total area surveyed by local agency in the district to 304·34 square miles.

Settlement of town lands.

61. As stated in paragraph 47 of the last year's report, the Settlement Officer, Cachar, submitted his note on the resettlement of the Silchar town during the year under review. The rates proposed by him were approved by the Chief Commissioner with certain modifications, and were published for criticism and objections.

SECTION IX.

WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

62. The only estate under the management of the revenue authorities during the year was the attached estate of Maulvi Muhammad Ahiya, of which mention was made in the previous year's report. The survey of the estate, which was undertaken in 1899-1900, was in progress during the year. An area of 5,459 acres was surveyed, and the measurement papers prepared at an average cost of three annas per acre.

The current demand of the estate amounted to Rs. 25,496, against Rs. 25,959 in the previous year, showing a slight decrease of Rs. 463. By a revision of assessment of certain holdings, a sum of Rs. 497 (current Rs. 138 and arrear Rs. 359) was added to the total demand, while a sum of Rs. 1,756 (current Rs. 601 and arrear Rs. 1,155) was deducted from it, as the amount had been wrongly entered in the accounts before the estate came under the management of the revenue authorities. The arrear demand on the 1st April 1900 was Rs. 32,622, which was reduced by a net sum of Rs. 796, bringing the corrected arrear demand to Rs. 31,826. The total collections amounted to Rs. 21,486, or 37·48 per cent. of the total demand (Rs. 57,322), leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 35,836 at the close of the year. This is a poor result, and is attributed to the partial failure of the raiyats' crops. Coercive measures for realisation of arrears could not be taken in many cases for want of *kabuliyats*. The manager has been directed to reduce the arrears as early as possible. In addition to the collections on account of rent, a sum of Rs. 796 was realised during the year on account of debts due to the estate and other miscellaneous receipts. The debts due by the estate outstanding on the 1st April 1900 amounted to Rs. 52,664, to which Rs. 5,192 were added during the year on account of interest on the debts and *patni* rents, making a total of Rs. 57,856. This total was reduced by Rs. 11,097, or 19·18 per cent., of which Rs. 7,827 were paid by the estate, and Rs. 3,270 were remitted by the creditors, leaving a balance of Rs. 46,759 to be liquidated. After defraying all expenses on account of management, maintenance of the proprietors, Government revenue, etc., a balance of Rs. 2,630 was left at credit of the estate at the close of the year.

SECTION X.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rules and Regulations.

63. During the year no important changes were made in the Settlement Rules issued under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation.

Acquisition of land for public purposes.

64. The total area of land taken up for public purposes during the year 1900-1901 amounted to 447 acres 2 roods 21 poles, and the compensation paid amounted to Rs. 19,863-2-1. Details for each district are given in Statement IX in the Appendix.

In Cachar an area of 12·79 acres was acquired for roads at a cost of Rs. 831, and 7·43 acres and 5·17 acres were acquired for a brick-field for the Public Works Department and a recreation ground for the Silchar town at a cost of Rs. 1,150 and Rs. 3,240, respectively.

In Sylhet the area acquired for roads was 68·53 acres and the compensation for it Rs. 3,179; 3·72 acres, 3·39 acres, and 4·70 acres were also acquired for tanks, coolie depôts, and a police station at a cost amounting to Rs. 542, Rs. 570, and Rs. 1,997, respectively.

Partition of estates.

65. In Cachar no new partition cases were instituted during the year, and of the two cases pending from the preceding year one was disposed of, leaving one for local enquiry.

In Sylhet 23 cases were pending from the preceding year, and 21 cases were newly instituted during the year. Of these, 15 were disposed of and 29 remained pending at the close of the year.

In the Assam Valley the number of cases instituted amounted to 136. Adding to these the 182 cases pending at the beginning of the year, there were 318 cases for disposal, of which 129 were disposed of, leaving 189 pending, as detailed in the statement below:

District.	Pending on 31st March 1900.	Instituted during 1900-1901.	Disposed of during 1900-1901.	Balance on 31st March 1901.
1	2	3	4	5
Goalpara	...	...	...	...
Kamrup	140	73	62	151
Darrang	6	11	15	2
Nowgong	...	1	1	...
Sibsagar	27	48	43	32
Lakhimpur	9	3	8	4
Total	182	136	129	189

The aggregate number of partition cases disposed of in the Assam Valley districts for each of the past five years is shown below:

1896-97	185
1897-98	187
1898-99	229
1899-1900	297
1900-1901	129

Sale of proprietary rights in Government estates.

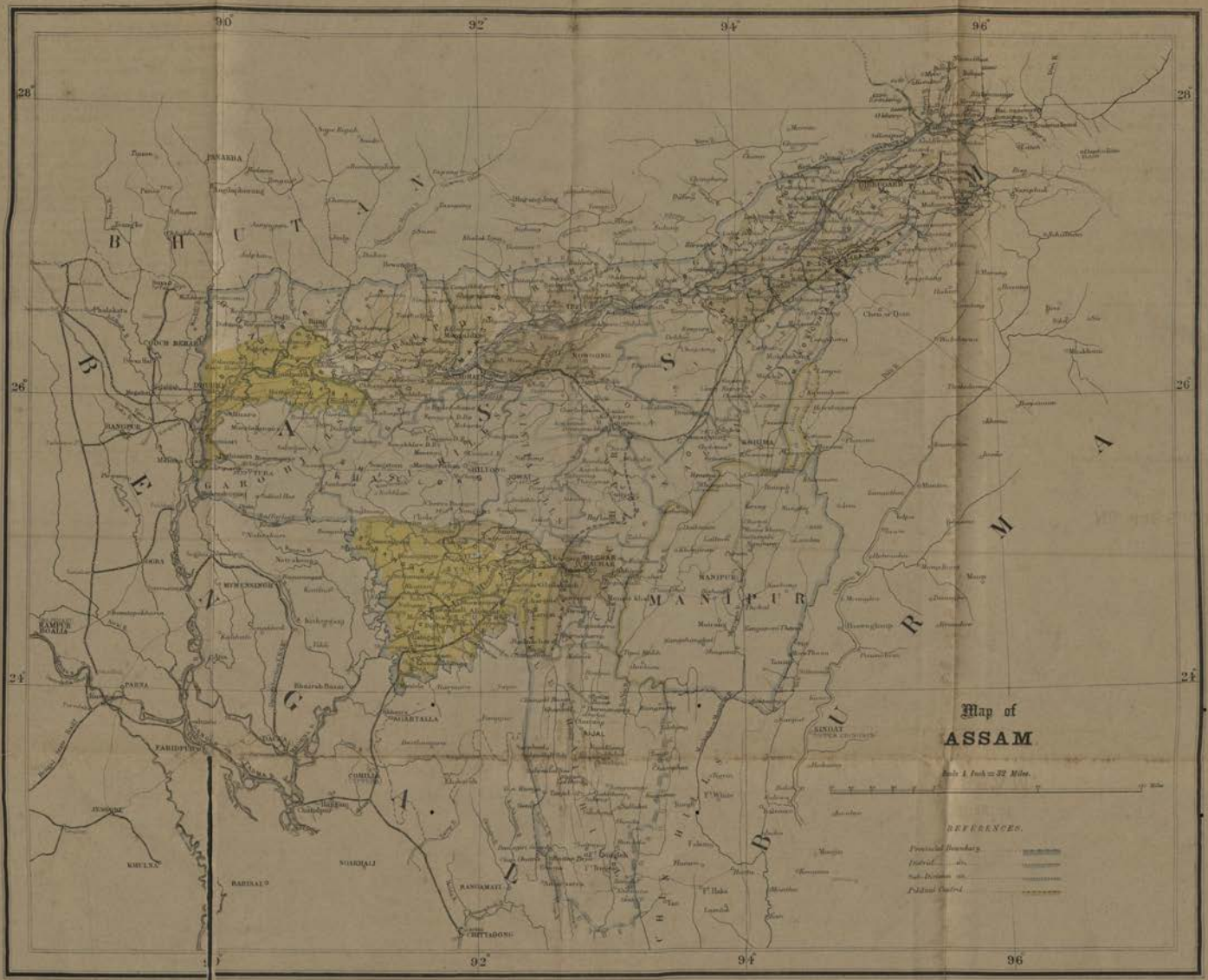
66. No sales of proprietary rights in Government estates took place during the year.

Registration of estates and mutation cases.

67. The number of mutation cases instituted during the year was 22,261 (as shown in the statement below), against 28,309 in 1899-1900, showing a decrease of 6,048 cases, which was shared by all districts, except Goalpara and Lakhimpur. The decrease occurred mainly in the districts of Cachar and Kamrup, where the number of these cases fell off by 2,597 and 1,727 cases. In the former district a large number of cases were instituted during the preceding year for the registration of transfers which had taken place during the interval between the survey of the district and its resettlement.

District.	Pending on 1st April 1900.	Instituted during 1900-1901.	Total for disposal.	Disposed of during 1900-1901.	Pending on 31st March 1901.	Number of estates subject to mutation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cachar	6,754	6,612	13,366	8,124	5,242	64,155
Sylhet	1,138	5,523	6,661	5,313	1,348	90,136
Goalpara	4	19	23	23	...	325
Kamrup	2,162	2,852	5,014	2,847	2,167	67,740
Darrang	212	1,424	1,636	1,451	185	47,756
Nowgong	263	1,559	1,822	1,582	240	39,648
Sibsagar	1,029	3,110	4,139	2,795	1,344	88,925
Lakhimpur	137	1,162	1,299	1,142	157	28,363
Total	11,699	22,261	33,960	23,277	10,683	427,048

MAP ILLUSTRATING THE PERMANENTLY-SETTLED AND THE CADASTRALLY-SURVEYED AREAS OF THE PROVINCE.



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The following statement shows the proportion borne in each of the five upper districts of the Assam Valley by the number of mutation cases instituted to the total number of estates subject to mutation (*i.e.*, estates of proprietors and landholders) during the past two years :

District.	1899-1900. Per cent.	1900-1901. Per cent.
Kamrup	6·30	4·21
Darrang	3·62	2·98
Nowgong	4·67	3·93
Sibsagar	3·96	3·50
Lakhimpur	3·55	4·10

This is not a satisfactory result, for it shows that mutation is not applied for in many cases.

Registration of tenures in Sylhet.

68. During the year 26 tenures, comprising a total area of 998 acres, were registered in Sylhet under section 55 of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, against 23 in the preceding year.

Agricultural advances and recoveries.

69. There were no advances or recoveries under this head in any of the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley during the year. No new advances were made to agriculturists in Cachar. A trifling sum of Rs. 21-11-1, outstanding in Hailakandi, was realised. In Sylhet a sum of Rs. 227 was advanced, but no recoveries were made. With the unrealised balance of the previous year the amount outstanding for recovery in this district is Rs. 556.

The balance outstanding in the Garo Hills district on the 1st April 1900 was shown in the last year's report as Rs. 167; but the correct figure is Rs. 187, Rs. 20, which should have been credited to the supply fund, having been wrongly shown as credit under this head in the district accounts. Of this sum, Rs. 33 were recovered during the year, leaving Rs. 154 outstanding on the 31st March 1901.

Process-fees.

70. The amount of process-fees realised in the province during the year was Rs. 91,071, against Rs. 91,565 in the preceding year. The slight decrease was due to a decrease in the Sylhet district. In the Brahmaputra Valley, the receipts on account of process-fees realised, excluding those realised at tahsils, covered the cost of establishment in every district, though they fell short of it in certain subdivisions taken separately—notably in the sadr subdivision of Kamrup and the Mangaldai subdivision of Darrang. Taking into account the results of process-serving in the tahsils, the receipts of the valley for the year amounted to Rs. 42,212, and the expenditure to Rs. 21,586, leaving a surplus of Rs. 20,626. An amalgamation of the criminal and revenue process-serving establishments was carried out during the year.

By order of the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

F. J. MONAHAN,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Shillong :

The 4th December 1901.

STATEMENTS.

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STATEMENT No. I.

Showing the rainfall of Assam for the year ending the 31st March 1901 and the average rainfall for the preceding five years.

No. of station.	District or subdivisional rain-gauge station.	Average rainfall for five years ending 1899-1900.	Rainfall for the year 1900-1901.
1	2	3	4
1	Silchar	112·71	94·85
2	Hailakandi	109·78	104·91
3	Haflong	78·79	57·64
4	North Sylhet...	142·61	111·46
5	Karimganj	136·85	108·01
6	South Sylhet...	100·21	88·28
7	Habiganj	90·92	99·68
8	Sunamganj	197·95	154·50
9	Shillong	75·84	73·59
10	Cherrapunji Police Station	458·53	415·72
11	Jowai	136·97	117·94
12	Tura	119·79	112·90
13	Dhubri	98·57	80·72
14	Goalpara	85·45	75·35
15	Gauhati	69·52	49·58
16	Barpeta	95·40	75·88
17	Tezpur	69·49	62·26
18	Mangaldai	69·35	61·10
19	Nowgong	68·80	55·33
20	Sibsagar	99·88	86·67
21	Jorhat	80·14	76·32
22	Golaghat	90·48	58·68
23	Dibrugarh	117·60	84·27
24	North Lakhimpur	131·81	104·06
25	Kohima	70·82	54·00
26	Mokokchang...	95·14	85·96
27	Aijal	76·58	73·74

General Statement showing the settled area in each of the plains

Class of estates.	Cachar.			Sylhet.		
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.			Rs.
I.—Permanently settled ...	...	...	...	49,860	2,411,326	3,65,303
II.—Temporarily settled—						
Annually at full rates for ordinary cultivation.	1,375	1,686	1,199	8,185	25,373	24,950
Annually at full rates for special cultivation.						
Total annually settled ...	1,375	1,686	1,199	8,185	25,373	24,950
Periodically at full rates for ordinary cultivation.	61,546	304,722	3,62,341	40,070	366,895	2,72,906
Periodically at full rates for special cultivation.	444	111,574	76,573	...	...	...
Total periodically settled ...	61,990	416,296	4,38,914	40,070	366,895	2,72,906
Total *khiraj* (ordinary cultivation).	62,921	306,408	3,63,540	48,170	380,456	2,88,459
Total *khiraj* (special cultivation)	444	111,574	76,573	85	11,812	9,397
Total *khiraj*	63,365	417,982	4,40,113	48,255	392,268	2,97,856
Nisf-khiraj for one year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ „ ten years ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ „ twenty „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total *nisf-khiraj* ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Special settlements ...	57	220	323	...	...	...
Town lands	473	1,913	4,090	...	...	...
Total temporarily settled ...	63,895	420,115	4,44,526	48,255	392,268	2,97,856
III.—Waste land grants—						
Under old rules of 1838 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto „ 1854 ...	23	25,926	7,291	3	3,029	852
Fee-simple grants	23	9,587	...	...	...	...
Old rule grants commuted ...	67	136,207	...	1	1,891	...
Under Section I, Settlement Rules.	10	3,171	651	132	85,516	63,843
Other miscellaneous items ...	...	...	...	71	61,852	55,870
Total waste land grants ...	123	174,891	7,942	207	152,288	1,20,565
Total area settled for special cultivation.	567	286,465	84,515	292	164,100	1,29,962
Grand total	64,018	595,006*	4,52,468	98,322	2,955,882	7,83,724

* Excludes *jhak*

MENT No. II.

districts in the Province of Assam at the close of the year 1900-1901.

Goalpara.			Kamrup.			Darrang.		
Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
19	1,518,982	11,411	...	...	...	...	...	...
19,215	68,029	96,998	99,496	170,108	4,07,948	74,852	121,800	3,04,987
19,215	68,029	96,998	99,496	170,108	4,07,948	74,852	121,800	3,04,987
1	192	319	64,366	239,829	6,63,983	46,928	129,523	3,53,637
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	192	319	64,366	239,829	6,63,983	46,928	129,523	3,53,637
19,215	68,029	96,998	163,830	408,560	10,69,587	121,580	230,698	6,34,470
1	192	319	32	1,377	2,344	200	11,625	24,154
19,216	68,221	97,317	163,862	409,937	10,71,931	121,780	251,323	6,58,624
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1,972	150,037	1,50,421	79	13,171	8,886
...	...	...	...	...	...	14	17,876	8,768
...	...	...	1,972	150,037	1,50,421	93	31,047	17,654
41	1,599	1,032	370	1,620	4,063	2	677	48
254	102	1,626	962	916	7,459	437	364	4,022
19,511	69,922	99,975	167,166	562,510	12,33,874	122,312	263,411	6,80,348
...	...	...	2	31	67	...	...	...
...	...	...	3	920	259	1	293	82
...	...	...	17	4,456	...	78	43,445	...
...	...	...	20	12,527	...	15	6,758	...
1	360	180	21	5,661	3,244	239	74,030	37,968
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	360	180	63	23,595	3,570	333	124,526	38,050
2	552	499	95	24,972	5,914	533	136,151	62,204
19,531	1,589,264	1,11,566	167,229	586,105	12,37,444	122,645	407,937	7,18,398

sha.

STATEMENT

Class of estate.	Nowgong.			Sibsagar.		
	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Rs.			Rs.
I.—Permanently settled ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
II.—Temporarily settled—						
Annually at full rates for ordinary cultivation. Annually at full rates for special cultivation.	78,760	121,300	2,92,368	103,112	154,375	3,71,890
Total annually settled ...	78,760	121,300	2,92,368	103,112	154,375	3,71,890
Periodically at full rates for ordinary cultivation. Periodically at full rates for special cultivation.	38,824	75,926	2,20,541	86,564	336,163	9,24,524
Total periodically settled ...	38,824	75,926	2,20,541	86,564	336,163	9,24,524
Total *khiraj* (ordinary cultivation).	117,477	193,813	5,06,482	188,623	430,234	11,60,379
Total *khiraj* (special cultivation)	107	3,413	6,427	1,053	60,304	1,35,035
Total *khiraj*	117,584	197,226	5,12,909	189,676	490,538	12,96,414
Nisf-khiraj for one year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ „ ten years ...	24	5,382	4,444	344	4,991	3,414
„ „ twenty „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total *nisf-khiraj*	24	5,382	4,444	344	4,991	3,414
Special settlements,,, ...	1	1,993	1,338	9	190	502
Town lands	775	573	3,370	1,673	1,851	11,962
Total temporarily settled ...	118,384	205,174	5,22,061	191,702	497,570	13,12,292
III. Waste land grants—						
Under old rules of 1838 ...	...	...	...	16	5,194	8,845
Ditto „ 1854 ...	2	469	132	2	726	204
Fee-simple grants	42	15,229	...	51	30,877	...
Old rule grants commuted ...	13	6,120	...	111	93,767	...
Under Section I, Settlement Rules	79	30,998	28,365	262	75,635	50,952
Other miscellaneous items ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total waste land grants ...	136	52,816	28,497	442	206,199	60,001
Total area settled for special cultivation.	243	56,229	34,924	1,495	266,503	1,96,036
Grand total	118,520	257,990	5,50,558	192,144	703,769	13,72,293

* Besides this, a sum of Rs. 449 was assessed and realised as the revenue of a Singpho village on the frontier ment papers having been prepared for this tract, the amount could not be entered under either annual or decennial

No. II—*contd.*

Lakhimpur.			Total.		
Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Number of estates.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
23	24	25	26	27	28
		Rs.			Rs.
...	...	...	49,879	3,930,308	3,76,714
49,774	90,400	2,04,287	434,769	753,071	17,04,627
49,774	90,400	2,04,287	434,769	753,071	17,04,627
27,228	105,958	2,78,438	365,527	1,559,208	30,76,689
...	...	...	444	111,574	76,573
27,228	105,958	2,78,438	365,971	1,670,782	31,53,262
76,368	168,960	4,20,593	798,184	2,196,158	45,40,508
634	27,398	62,132	2,556	227,695	2,17,381
77,002	196,358	4,82,725	800,740	2,423,853	48,57,889
1	39	46	1	39	46
29	1,243	1,743	2,448	174,824	1,68,908
...	...	...	14	17,876	8,768
30	1,282	1,789	2,463	192,739	1,77,722
23	10,287	11,014	503	16,586	18,320
803	1,066	10,576	5,377	6,785	43,105
77,858	208,993	5,06,104	809,083	2,639,963	50,97,036
...	...	...	18	5,225	8,912
...	...	...	34	31,363	8,820
102	87,107	...	313	190,701	...
41	30,230	...	268	287,500	...
184	68,599	38,934	928	343,970	2,24,137
...	...	...	71	61,852	55,870
327	185,936	38,934	1,632	920,611	2,97,739
961	213,334	1,01,066	4,188	1,148,306	6,15,120
78,185	394,929	5,45,038*	860,594	7,490,882	57,71,489

tract, *vide* Secretary to the Chief Commissioner's No. 660For.—4825P., dated the 16th November 1900. No settle-leases.

STATEMENT

Fluctuation in the khiraj *area in the*

District and subdivision.	Settled at the close of the year 1899-1900.		Resigned and otherwise excluded from settlement.	
	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
Eastern Duars	70,557	98,379	19,913	23,413
Barpeta	85,486	2,09,438	28,452	61,471
Gauhati	344,868	9,11,480	45,310	1,06,495
Total Kamrup	430,354	11,20,918	73,762	1,67,966
Mangaldai	144,499	3,89,542	11,585	30,089
Tezpur	108,728	2,75,493	10,976	24,078
Total Darrang	253,227	6,65,035	22,561	54,167
Nowgong	208,762	5,41,983	43,482	98,784
Golaghat	133,189	3,53,410	5,603	10,967
Jorhat	183,340	4,92,578	8,599	18,381
Sibsagar	166,570	4,33,422	4,590	10,384
Total Sibsagar	483,099	12,79,410	18,792	39,732
North Lakhimpur	52,335	1,27,759	5,997	12,399
Dibrugarh	136,006	3,37,773	5,508	12,051
Total Lakhimpur	188,341	4,65,532	11,505	24,450
Grand total	1,634,340	41,71,257	190,015	4,08,512

No. III.

Brahmaputra Valley districts during the year 1900-1901.

Resigned land of previous year retaken in 1900-1901.		New land taken up in 1900-1901.		Settled area at the close of 1900-1901 (total of columns 2, 4, and 5, *minus* column 3).		Fluctuations of temporarily-settled area, being total area relinquished and not retaken in last 3 years.	Percentage of resignations (column 12) to total settled area (column 10) at the close of 1900-1901.
Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.	Area, in acres.	Revenue.		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
4,756	6,476	12,821	15,875	68,221	97,317	43,556	63·84
5,476	12,341	14,179	28,138	76,689	1,88,450	38,601	50·33
9,683	24,691	24,007	54,801	333,248	8,83,481	62,420	18·73
15,159	36,032	38,186	82,939	409,937	10,71,931	101,021	24·64
2,721	8,180	4,884	10,873	140,519	3,78,506	25,259	17·97
960	2,325	12,092	26,378	110,804	2,80,118	22,038	19·89
3,681	10,505	16,976	37,251	251,323	6,58,624	47,297	18·82
5,110	12,411	26,836	57,299	197,226	5,12,909	126,224	63·99
590	1,264	7,423	14,502	135,599	3,58,209	18,906	13·94
682	1,527	10,254	22,536	185,677	4,98,260	25,744	13·86
110	263	7,172	16,644	169,262	4,39,945	11,619	6·86
1,382	3,054	24,849	53,682	490,538	12,96,414	56,269	11·47
501	1,089	8,422	17,372	55,261	1,33,821	20,339	36·80
365	932	10,234	22,250	141,097	3,48,904	23,323	16·52
866	2,021	18,656	39,622	196,358	4,82,725	43,662	22·23
30,954	70,499	138,324	2,86,668	1,613,603	41,19,920	418,029	25·91

STATEMENT

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of Ordinary

District.	Number of estates.	Demands.			Collections.		
		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	63,928	4,52,468	13,463	4,65,931	3,86,780	13,340	4,00,120
Sylhet ... Temporarily-settled	48,461	4,18,421	1,03,936	5,22,357	3,40,485	71,215	4,11,700
Permanently-settled	49,860	3,65,303	431	3,65,734	3,64,706	394	3,65,100
Total	98,321	7,83,724	1,04,367	8,88,091	7,05,191	71,609	7,76,800
Goalpara ... Temporarily-settled	19,512	1,00,155	758	1,00,913	1,00,132	758	1,00,890
Permanently-settled	19	11,411	...	11,411	11,411	...	11,411
Total	19,531	1,11,566	758	1,12,324	1,11,543	758	1,12,301
Kamrup	167,192	12,37,444	86,181	13,23,625	11,47,709	44,246	11,91,955
Darrang	122,523	7,18,398	28,534	7,46,932	6,80,633	20,287	7,00,920
Nowgong	118,465	5,50,558	1,18,300	6,68,858	5,16,095	44,582	5,60,677
Sibsagar	191,982	13,72,293	1,13,284	14,85,577	13,12,236	83,740	13,95,976
Lakhimpur	78,042	5,45,487	37,770	5,83,257	5,03,452	26,402	5,29,854
Naga Hills	1	10	...	10	10	...	10
Khasi and Jaintia Hills ...	1,784	9,203	9	9,212	8,615	9	8,624
Garo Hills Temporarily-settled	5,507	20,221	3,037	23,258	17,942	1,704	19,646
Permanently-settled	1	12	...	12	12	...	12
Total	5,508	20,233	3,037	23,270	17,954	1,704	19,658
Total temporarily-settled ...	817,397	54,24,658	5,05,272	59,29,930	50,14,089	3,06,283	53,20,372
Total permanently-settled ...	49,880	3,76,726	431	3,77,157	3,76,129	394	3,76,523
Grand total	867,277	58,01,384	5,05,703	63,07,087	53,90,218	3,06,677	56,96,895

No. IV.

Land Revenue, including Malikana *of Estates on the Revenue-Roll, during the year* 1900-1901.

Remissions.	Net balances. Current.	Net balances. Arrear.	Net balances. Total.	Distribution of balances. Doubtful and irrecoverable.	Distribution of balances. In process of recovery.	Percentage. Collections (column 8) on demand (column 5).	Percentage. Remissions (column 9) on demand (column 5).	Percentage. Total uncollected balances (column 12) on demand (column 5).	Percentage. Doubtful and irrecoverable balances (column 13) on demand (column 5).	Percentage. Recoverable balances (column 14) on demand (column 5).	Payment in advance on account of the ensuing
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.						Rs.
...	65,688	123	65,811	...	65,811	85·85	..	14·12	...	14·12	...
10,343(*a*)	77,893	22,421	1,00,314	1,815	98,499	78·82	1·98	19·20	0·35	18·86	6,229
...	597	37	634	...	634	99·83	...	0·17	...	0·17	51,813
10,343(*a*)	78,490	22,458	1,00,948	1,815	99,133	87·47	1·16	11·37	0·20	11·16	58,042
...	23	...	23	...	23	99·98	...	0·02	...	0·02	18
...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
...	23	...	23	...	23	99·98	...	0·02	...	0·02	18
3,630(*b*)	89,715	28,275	1,27,990	5,837	1,22,153	90·05	0·28	9·67	0·44	9·23	...
3,608(*c*)	37,754	4,650	42,404	2,000	40,404	93·84	0·48	5·68	0·27	5·41	...
38,613(*d*)	34,454	35,114	69,568	35,114	34,454	83·83	5·77	10·40	5·26	5·15	...
7,533(*e*)	60,057	22,011	82,068	...	82,068	93·97	0·51	5·52	...	5·52	...
77(*e*)	42,035	11,291	53,326	...	53,326	90·84	0·01	9·14	...	9·14	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
...	588	...	588	...	588	93·62	...	6·38	...	6·38	24
...	2,279	1,333	3,612	708	2,904	84·47	...	15·53	3·04	12·49	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	100·00	...	...	...	...	...
...	2,279	1,333	3,612	708	2,904	84·48	...	15·52	3·04	12·48	...
63,854(*f*)	4,10,486	1,35,218	5,45,704	45,474	5,00,230	89·72	1·08	9·20	0·77	8·44	6,271
...	597	37	634	...	634	99·83	...	0·17	...	0·17	51,813
63,854(*f*)	4,11,083	1,35,255	5,46,338	45,474	5,00,864	90·33	1·01	8·66	0·72	7·94	58,084

(*a*) Rs. Current 43, Arrear 10,300, Total 10,343

(*b*) Rs. Current ... 30, Arrear ... 3,660, Total ... 3,680

(*c*) Rs. Current... 11, Arrear ... 3,597, Total ... 3,608

(*d*) Rs. Current ... 9, Arrear ... 38,604, Total ... 38,613

(*e*) Arrear only. Rs. Current ... 83

(*f*) Arrear ... 63,771, Total ... 63,854

STATEMENT

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Cachar.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	1		2		3
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	7,340	435	6,123	435	...
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	8,228	28	8,198	28	...
6. Lime quarries	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt wells	30	...	30	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey-fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	275	...	275	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	135	...	135	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	1,427	2,268	1,427	2,268	...
Total	17,435	2,731	16,188	2,731	...
Total (both current and arrear)	20,166		18,919		...
Percentage	.....		93·82		...

STATEMENT

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Goalpara.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	11		12		13
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	5,750	...	5,750	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	3,000	...	3,000	...	...
3. Fisheries	2,336	...	2,336	...	...
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	...
6. Lime quarries	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt wells	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	604	...	604	...	...
Total	11,690	...	11,690	...	...
Total (both current and arrear)	11,690		11,690		...
Percentage	.....		100·00		...

No. V.

Miscellaneous Land Revenue during the year 1900-1901.

Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Sylhet.							
			Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
4		5	6		7		8	9		10
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,217	...	2,987	62,844	13,625	48,288	8,352	1,292*	14,556	3,981	10,038
...	...	...	2,346	552	1,639	469	2*	707	81	318
30	...	...	6	4	6	...	4*	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1,463	...	1,463	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	844	...	844	...	...	...	...	...
1,247	...	2,987	67,503	14,181	52,240	8,821	1,298*	15,263	4,062	10,356
1,247		...	81,684		61,061		1,298*	19,325		...
6·18		...	.....		74·75		1·59	23·76		...

No. V—*continued.*

Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Kamrup.							
			Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
14		15	16		17		18	19		20
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	356	18,583	799	18,348	120	337*	234	342	5,263
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1,402	210	1,039	16	...	363	194	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	583	...	583	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	15	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	295	...	295	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	95	...	95	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	98	...	98	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	356	21,070	1,009	20,473	136	137*	597	536	5,263
...		...	22,079		20,609		337*	1,133		...
...		...	.....		93·34		1·53	5·13		...

* Arrear.

STATEMENT

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Darrang.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	21		22		23
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	1,090	...	1,090	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	1,600	...	1,600	...	...
3. Fisheries	8,286	...	8,277	...	9†
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	...	...	...	...	...
6. Lime quarries	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt wells	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	2,209	...	2,209	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	392	...	392	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	17	...	17	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation...	48	...	48	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	118	...	118	...	...
Total	13,760	...	13,751	...	9†
Total (both current and arrear)	13,760		13,751		9†
Percentage	..		99·93		0·07

STATEMENT

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Sibsagar.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	31		32		33
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	34,480	3,732	34,461	1,697	2,035*
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	5,453	...	5,057	...	...
6. Lime quarries	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	194	...	194	...	...
9. Salt wells	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	2,663	...	2,663	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	845	...	845	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	113	...	113	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation .	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	169	...	169	...	...
Total	43,917	3,732	43,502	1,697	2,035*
Total (both current and arrear)	47,649		45,199		2,035*
Percentage	...		94·86		4·27

* Arrear. † Current.

No. V—*continued.*

Nowgong.									
Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
24		25	26		27		28	29		30
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2,680	10,080	788	9,435	621	...	645	167	1,602
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	9,543	615	9,062	199	57*	481	359	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	100	...	100	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	267	...	267	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	93	...	93	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2,680	19,983	1,503	18,857	920	57‡	1,126	526	1,602
...		...	21,486		19,777		57‡	1,652		...
...		...	...		92·05		0·27	7·69		...

No. V—*continued.*

Lakhimpur.										
Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
34		35	36		37		38	39		40
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	4,405	265	4,318	265	...	87	...	...
...	...	...	5,700	...	4,800	...	...	900	...	...
19	...	5,145	6,768	...	6,448	...	...	320	...	1,045
...	...	...	6,506	35	6,506	35	...	...	...	...
396	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	36,883	...	36,883	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4,088	...	4,088	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1,926	...	1,926	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	10	...	10	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	173	...	173	...	...	...	...	...
415	...	5,145	66,459	300	65,152	300	...	1,307	...	1,045
415		...	66,759		65,452		...	1,307		...
0·87		...	...		98·04		...	1·96		...

‡ Arrear.

STATEMENT

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Naga Hills.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	41		42		43
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	...	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	600	...	600	...
3. Fisheries	...	...	...	...	...
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	59,935	104	58,880	104	...
6. Lime quarries	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	...	2	...	2	...
9. Salt wells	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	..	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*...	...	...	...	..	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and Registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	122	...	122	...	...
Total	60,057	706	59,002	706	...
Total (both current and arrear)	60,763		59,708		...
Percentage...	.....		98·26		...

STATEMENT

Sources of miscellaneous land revenue.	Garo Hills.				
	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	
	51		52		53
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Revenue from elephant *mahals*	...	...	...	..	...
2. Royalty on elephants	...	...	...	...	...
3. Fisheries	809	..	808	...	...
4. Poll-tax	...	...	...	...	...
5. House-tax	39,681	205	39,560	116	...
6. Lime quarries	...	..	...	...	...
7. Stone quarries	...	...	...	...	...
8. Coal mines and mineral oil	...	...	...	...	...
9. Salt wells	...	...	...	...	...
10. Gold washing	...	...	...	...	...
11. Sales of Government estates	...	...	...	...	...
12. Sales of waste land leases and redemption of land revenue.	...	...	...	...	...
13. Quit-rent of tributary *mahals*...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Survey fees (Chapter III of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
15. Mutation and registration fees (Chapter IV of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
16. Partition fees (Chapter VI of Land and Revenue Regulation).	...	...	...	...	...
17. Other fees under the Land and Revenue Regulation...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Other miscellaneous items not specified above ...	1,962	...	1,962	...	...
Total	42,452	205	42,330	116	...
Total (both current and arrear)	42,657		42,446		...
Percentage...	...		99·51		...

No. V—*continued.*

Khasi and Jaintia Hills.										
Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
44		45	46		47		48	49		50
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	1,500	...	1,500	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	550	1,250	550	1,250	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	5,105	26	5,105	26	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,055	...	...	27,808	1,628	25,071	1,628	...	2,737	...	...
...	...	...	15,984	...	15,984	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	225	...	225	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	110	...	110	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1,607	...	1,607	...	...	...	...	...
1,055	...	...	52,889	2,904	50,152	2,904	...	2,737	...	...
1,055		...	55,793		53,056		...	2,737		...
1·74		...	...		95·09		...	4·91		...

No. V—*concluded.*

Total.										
Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.	Demands.		Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.		Paid in advance for future years.
Current.	Arrea.		Current.	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.		Current.	Arrear.	
54		55	56		57		58	59		60
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
...	...	...	12,745	265	12,658	265	...	87	...	...
...	...	...	10,850	1,850	9,950	1,850	...	900	...	...
1	...	379	1,56,630	19,405	1,39,629	11,251	3,673*	16,992	4,490	29,495
...	...	...	8,852	587	8,145	504	2†	707	81	318
121	89	...	1,52,056	2,794	1,46,873	2,091	61†	5,183	642	...
...	...	...	15,984	...	15,984	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	225	...	225	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	37,187	2	37,187	2	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	30	...	30	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	9,543	100	9,543	100	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	5,183	...	5,183	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	570	...	570	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	143	...	143	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	7,217	2,268	7,217	2,268	...	...	...	...
122	89	379	4,17,215	27,271	3,93,337	18,331	3,736‡	23,869	5,213	29,813
211		...	4,44,486		4,11,668		3,736‡	29,082		...
0·49		...	...		92·62		0·84	6·54		...

* { Current ... ... Rs. 9 ; Arrear ... ... 3,664 ; Total ... ... 3,673 }

† Arrear.

‡ { Current ... ... Rs. 9 ; Arrear ... ... 3,727 ; Total ... ... 3,736 }

STATEMENT

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Balances of

District.	Demand.	
	1900-1901.	
	Current.	Arrear.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Cachar	37,290	916
Sylhet	2,26,173	7,146
Goalpara	68,830	22
Kamrup	1,01,126	6,211
Darrang	52,100	1,610
Nowgong	36,723	7,171
Sibsagar	1,01,085	9,798
Lakhimpur	45,283	1,714
Total	6,68,610	34,588

		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
(a) Arrear.	(b) Current	... 1	(c) Current	... 1	(d) Current	... 1	(e) Current	... 3
	Arrear	... 215	Arrear	... 222	Arrear	... 2,560	Arrear	... 3,993
	Total	... 216	Total	... 223	Total	... 2,561	Total	... 3,996

STATEMENT

Proceedings under Chapter V of the Assam Land and Revenue

District.	Notices of demand under section 68.			Attachment and sales of moveable property under section 69.			
	Total number of estates in the district.	Number of notices of demand issued.	Amount of arrear for which notices of demand issued.	Number of estates in respect of which moveable property was attached.	Amount of arrear for which moveable property was attached.	Number of estates in respect of which moveable property was sold.	Amount of arrear for which moveable property was sold.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Cachar ...	63,928	4,621	24,203	2,364	13,644	10	46
Sylhet ...	98,321	15,379	1,11,536	2,533	73,466	99	435
Goalpara ...	19,531	550	7,046	99		2	10
Kamrup ...	167,192	11,544	2,67,632	2,168		20	
Darrang ...	122,523	9,197	60,572	1,425	(d)	148	(d)
Nowgong ...	118,465	6,137	50,758	1,628		139	
Sibsagar ...	191,982	13,684	1,28,455	3,903		91	
Lahimpur ...	78,042	8,594	53,424	2,955		59	
Total ...	859,984	69,706	7,03,626	17,075	87,110	568	491

(a) Inclusive of 8,959 permanently-settled states.

(b) ,, of Rs. 1,71,906 on account of permanently-settled estates.

No. VI.

Local Rates during the year 1900-1901.

Collections.		Remissions.	Balances.	
1900-1901.			1900-1901.	
Current.	Arrear.	1900-1901.	Current.	Arrear.
4	5	6	7	8
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
28,116	914	...	9,174	2
2,20,835	5,060	562(*a*)	5,338	1,524
68,829	22	...	1	...
81,002	3,175	216(*b*)	20,123	2,821
49,952	1,149	223(*c*)	2,147	239
33,573	3,120	2,561(*d*)	3,149	1,491
97,207	5,363	429(*a*)	3,878	4,006
43,198	1,018	5(*a*)	2,085	691
6,22,712	19,821	3,996(*e*)	45,895	10,774

No. VII.

Regulation, 1886, *in the Province during the year* 1900-1901.

Attachment and sales of estates on which arrear accrued (section 70).				Number of estates the settlement of which was annulled under section 90(1).	Attachment of other immoveable property of the defaulter, section 91(1).		Amount of *talabana* realised.		
Number of estates attached.	Amount of arrear for which estates were attached.	Number of estates sold.	Amount of arrear for which estates were sold.		Number of cases of attachment.	Number of cases of sale.	Amount of process-fees and *talabana* realised.	Cost of issuing notices and process.	Surplus credited to Government.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.		Rs.				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
15	70	10	27	Nil	...	...	14,672	2,215	12,457
13,453(*a*)	1,91,469(*b*)	330(*c*)	2,524	77	...	...	34,187	9,844	24,343
4	12	4	12	...	...	...	1,209	1,534	—325
473	(*d*)	53	(*d*)	226	...	...	9,395	5,046	4,349
223		86		217	...	...	6,633	2,566	4,067
222		31		69	...	...	5,064	3,145	1,919
232		64		529	...	...	11,671	4,696	6,975
40		21		1	...	...	8,240	4,599	3,641
14,662	1,91,551	599	2,563	1,119	...	...	91,071	33,645	57,426

(*c*) Inclusive of Rs. 230 on account of permanently-settled estates.

(*d*) Separate figures for each district not available.

STATEMENT

Statement illustrative of the value of Land Revenue assigned or alienated

District and class of tenure.	Area, in acres.		
	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Cachar ... *Baksha*	1,788	...	1,788
Cachar ... *Lakhiraj*	...	475	475
Sylhet ... *Lakhiraj*	...	7,182	7,182
Sylhet ... *Nisf-khiraj*	...	82	82
Kamrup ... *Lakhiraj*	...	33,110	33,110
Kamrup ... *Nisf-khiraj*	...	150,404	150,404
Darrang ... *Lakhiraj*	...	5,488	5,488
Darrang ... *Nisf-khiraj*	...	31,098	31,098
Darrang ... Pension	...	239	239
Darrang ... Temple (Namghar)	...	64	64
Darrang ... *Kataki*	20	...	20
Nowgong ... *Lakhiraj*	...	2,314	2,314
Nowgong ... *Nisf-khiraj*	...	5,382	5,382
Nowgong ... Temple (Namghar)	...	48	48
Sibsagar ... *Lakhiraj*	...	37,888	37,888
Sibsagar ... *Nisf-khiraj*	...	5,016	5,016
Sibsagar ... Pension	...	122	122
Sibsagar ... Temple (Namghar)	...	123	123
Sibsagar ... Ten-twenties	...	190	190
Sibsagar ... Naga khat	754	...	754
Lakhimpur ... *Lakhiraj, Nisf-khiraj* and pension land grouped together.	...	4,225	4,225
Lakhimpur ... *Kataki* and *chaukidari* grouped together.	139	...	139
Total	2,701	283,450	286,151

No. VIII.

in the temporarily-settled estates of the Province to the end of 1900-1901.

Estimated land revenue calculated at ordinary rates.			Actual land revenue paid.			Amount of assignment or alienation.		
On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	On area for the maintenance of public servants.	On area on other grounds.	Total.	For the maintenance of public servants.	On other grounds.	Total.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
755	...	755	...	...	...	755	...	755
...	303	303	...	...	...	...	303	303
...	7,187	7,187	...	...	...	...	7,187	7,187
...	51	51	...	30	30	...	21	21
...	49,812	49,812	...	...	...	...	49,812	49,812
...	3,02,658	3,02,658	...	1,51,329	1,51,329	...	1,51,329	1,51,329
...	10,271	10,271	...	48	48	...	10,223	10,223
...	33,040	33,040	...	16,520	16,520	...	16,520	16,520
...	490	490	...	...	...	...	490	490
...	262	262	...	17	17	...	245	245
45	...	45	...	...	...	45	...	45
...	3,102	3,102	...	...	...	...	3,102	3,102
...	11,202	11,202	...	4,444	4,444	...	6,758	6,758
...	202	202	...	...	...	...	202	202
...	18,098	18,098	...	...	...	...	18,098	18,098
...	8,807	8,807	...	3,455	3,455	...	5,352	5,352
...	336	336	...	...	...	...	336	336
...	326	326	...	...	...	...	326	326
...	578	578	...	502	502	...	76	76
1,666	...	1,666	...	...	...	1,666	...	1,666
...	10,290	10,290	...	1,876	1,876	...	8,414	8,414
349	...	349	...	...	...	349	...	349
2,815	4,57,015	4,59,830	...	1,78,221	1,78,221	2,815	2,78,794	2,81,609

STATEMENT No. IX.

Lands taken up for public purposes and compensation paid for them during the year 1900-1901.

District.	Area acquired.			Compensation paid.		
1	2			3		
	A.	r.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cachar	29	1	26	7,155	4	9
Sylhet	83	1	28	6,564	0	8
Goalpara	67	0	6	5,402	2	8
Kamrup	37	3	9	386	3	0
Nowgong	49	0	17	341	0	0
Sibsagar	180	0	25	.....		
Lakhimpur	0	2	20	14	7	0
Total	447	2	21	19,863	2	1

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